

Bulletin

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**Royal
Academy
of
Music**

Cross Keys Close

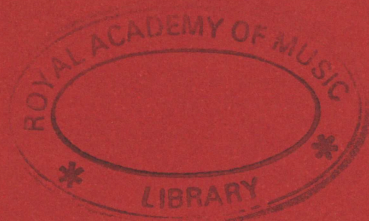
Welcome to the Academy's new rehearsal and practice centre

Academy People

Recent alumni are shaping all aspects of the profession

Sir Elton John/ Ray Cooper Organ

A magnificent new instrument for the Duke's Hall



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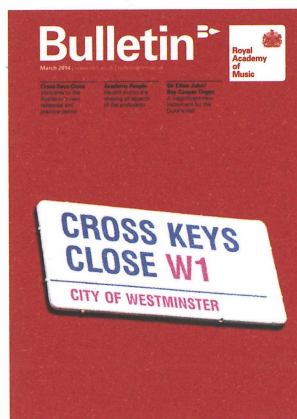
Photos by Hana Zushi and Pete Smith
at the Royal Academy of Music,
except Fra Fee, page 13: Nobby Clark.

► Welcome to the latest edition
of the Bulletin, the Academy's news
report for the past twelve months.

Only a fraction of the Academy's
activities appear here — visit
www.ram.ac.uk for the wider picture.

We're always interested to hear from
you — if you'd like to get involved,
contact us!

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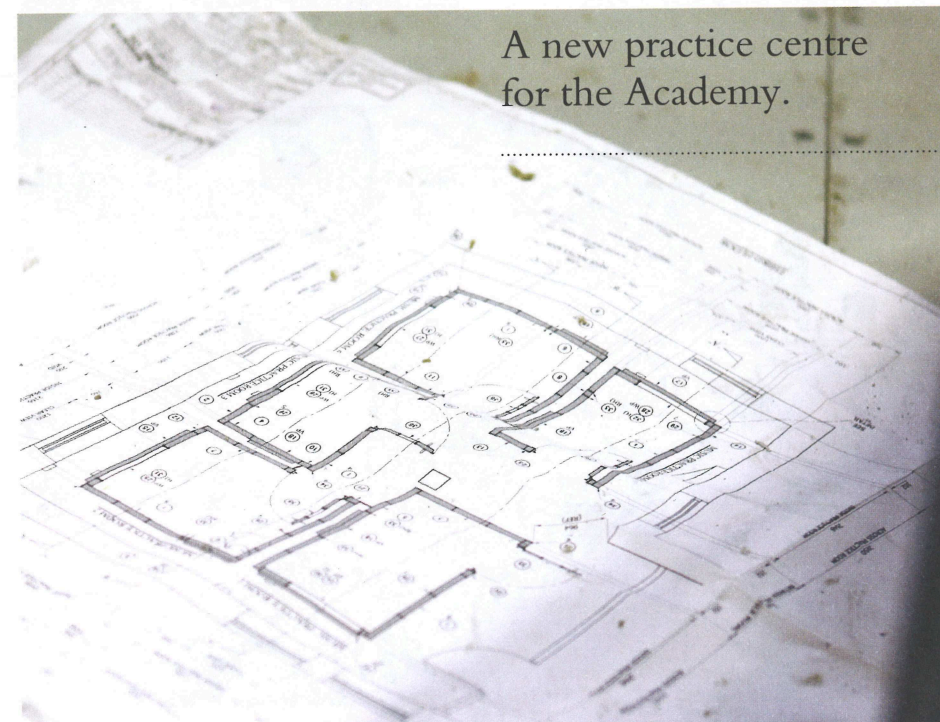
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CROSS KEYS CLOSE

A new practice centre
for the Academy.





The Academy is proud to announce its brand-new practice centre, opening in January 2014. Cross Keys Close, situated on a quiet mews road in central Marylebone, is just a few minutes' walk away from the main Academy campus and will be used exclusively by Academy students, seven days a week.

The building will house 18 individual sound-proofed practice rooms, each equipped with an upright piano, and two chamber music spaces, with grand pianos, to comfortably accommodate ensembles of four or five musicians. The Principal, Jonathan Freeman-Attwood, gave students the news in his welcoming speech at the start of the academic year, later commenting:

'This new facility is a substantial addition to the Academy's generous room provision,

which already amounts to over 100 teaching and practice studios, rehearsal and lecture rooms. It will at a stroke add over 2,000 hours to the combined practice time that is available on the premises every week. This practice centre, in a lovely mews off Marylebone Lane, will transform life for many students and contribute significantly to the Royal Academy of Music's increasingly outstanding resources and facilities.'



As this Bulletin goes to press, skilled contractors are completing the conversion of the building.

First opened in 1912, the Academy occupies a unique island site that continues to expand and adapt. In last year's Bulletin we announced plans for a new theatre and concert hall that will ensure the Academy has a full complement of world-class performing spaces: the next phase of this appeal was launched by Sir Elton John in October.



PREVIEW / 2014 AT THE ACADEMY

If you haven't visited the Academy's buildings on Marylebone Road recently, we hope that our forthcoming season's events will tempt you to drop by.

Highlights for the year ahead include:

- * Orchestral concerts conducted by Jac van Steen, Trevor Pinnock, Edward Gardner, Sir Mark Elder, Semyon Bychkov, Yan-Pascal Tortelier, Robin Ticciati, Nicholas Collon and more.
- * Bach keyboard concertos directed by Murray Perahia.
- * Our Menuhin Professor of Music Maxim Vengerov directs Academy strings.
- * Dave Holland, International Jazz Artist in Residence, in masterclass and concert.
- * Celebrations of the 80th birthday of Sir Harrison Birtwistle, Visiting Professor of Composition.
- * An intensive two-day piano festival in June.
- * Side-by-side performances and masterclasses marking fifty years since the Nash Ensemble was founded at the Academy.
- * Royal Academy Opera presents Handel's *Ariodante* conducted by Jane Glover and Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* conducted by Stuart Bedford.
- * Musical Theatre shows *Little Women* and *A Man of no Importance*.
- * A live simulcast from Dallas Opera of Tod Machover's *Death and the Powers*.

- * New series: Thursday Lunchtime Concerts, Sir Elton John/Ray Cooper Organ, Mozart Chamber Music, Sir Michael Tippett.

- * The sixth year of the Royal Academy of Music/Kohn Foundation Bach Cantata Series.

- * Visits to Wigmore Hall by Academy Song Circle and Baroque Ensemble directed by Rachel Podger.

- * Release on Linn Records of our premiere recording with Trevor Pinnock of Bruckner's Second Symphony arranged by Anthony Payne.

- * Another recording for Linn records by Academy chamber ensemble and Trevor Pinnock, joined by alumni soloists for a new chamber reduction of Zemlinsky's opus 13 songs plus more.

- * Masterclasses with international stars Yuri Bashmet, Laurence Cummings, Daniel Hope, Stephen Hough, Angelika Kirchschlager, Brindley Sherratt, Yevgeny Sudbin and many more.

We would be pleased to send you updates about Academy events by email or by post — please email publicity@ram.ac.uk or call us on 020 7873 7433 if you'd like to receive them.

If you'd like to keep up with our very latest news, you can become a fan of the Academy on Facebook, or follow our news from day to day on Twitter; just follow the links from the Academy's own website at www.ram.ac.uk.

Academy people



Wherever you look in the music profession, Academy alumni are making their mark. Over the next 20 pages, we pick out just a few highlights from the past 12 months – starting with orchestral performers.

Rachel Meerloo



Dominic Seldis



It was a particularly fruitful year for double bass alumni:

- **David Stark** (2011) appointed Principal Double Bass of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.
- **Adam Wynter** (2011) and **Joe Melvin** (2010) both accepted orchestral jobs with the Philharmonia Orchestra.
- **Rachel Meerloo** (2010) plays in the Hallé Orchestra.

- **Georgina Poad** (2007) plays alongside Principal Double Bass **Dominic Seldis** (1992, and now a professor at the Academy) in the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra.
- **Andrei Mihailescu** (2013) won the LSO String Experience Robert Lefever Award in November.

Academy alumni can be seen performing with leading orchestras world-wide, and in 2013 an exceptional number of our most recent graduates achieved orchestral appointments.

- Violinist **Marciana Buta** (2012) is another recent Academy graduate who is playing with the Philharmonia – as well as with the LSO and John Wilson Orchestra – and she is on trial with Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) and for the co-leader position with Scottish Ballet.
- Cellist **Mark Lindley** (2013) and violinist **Elizabeth Lamberton** (2012) have both accepted jobs with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra (RLPO); Elizabeth is also currently on trial with the RSNO.
- Current student violinist **Kate Suthers** is on trial with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO) as well as RSNO.
- Violinist **Mark Lee** (2012) has been working regularly with the RPO.

- Violinist **Emily Davis** (2013) on trial with English National Opera.
- **Andrew Harvey** (2009) is sub-principal first violin at Northern Sinfonia.
- **Steven Doman** (2013) is guest principal viola with Bournemouth, English National Ballet, Royal Ballet Sinfonia and Scottish Ballet.
- **Asher Zaccardelli** (2012) is on trial for the co-principal viola position with Scottish Ballet.
- **Martin Wray** (2013) is on trail as co-principal viola with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.
- Violist **Daisy Spiers** (2012) is on trial with BBC Philharmonic.
- Violist **Richard Waters** (2013) on trial with Opera North.
- **Hetty Snell** (2012) was appointed third cello at BBC NOW and is also on trial for the principal

position at BBC NOW and Scottish Opera, as well as section positions with the RSNO and Royal Opera House.

- Cellist **Marie Girbal** (2012) has accepted a position with the Orchestra National de Belgique.
- Cellist **Rebecca Herman** (2012), Meaker Fellow for 2012/13, is on trial with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, the Irish Chamber Orchestra and Northern Ballet. She freelances with the BBC Concert Orchestra, London Sinfonietta and RPO amongst others. Since September 2013 she has also been studying at the Academy for a PhD on Music of the Holocaust.

•The Philharmonia Orchestra have appointed **Jason Evans** (2013) as Principal Trumpet.

•**Christopher Avison** (2011) has been appointed Principal Trumpet of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

•**Adam Wright** (2000), trumpeter with the RPO for several years, has been announced as the orchestra's new Chairman.

•The Philharmonia Orchestra have appointed **Kira Doherty** (2006) as second horn.

•Horn player **Sam Jacobs** (2010) will be returning after two years with New Zealand Symphony Orchestra to start as Principal Horn with the RPO in early 2014.

•Current bass trombone student **James Buckle** is freelancing with the Philharmonia.

•**Joe Arnold** (2012) has been appointed bass trombone with English National Opera.

•**Simon Cox** (2007) is Principal Trumpet with the Aurora Orchestra and guest principal with a number of British orchestras.

He has returned to the Academy to study for a PhD.

•**Huw Morgan** (2007), Principal Trumpet of the Orchestra of Scottish Opera, continues to perform as guest principal with many leading UK orchestras including the RSNO, BBC Philharmonic and the RPO.

•**Huw and Simon** have also founded a brass music publishing company, Resonata Music and are members of the ensemble Septura, which recorded its debut CD for Naxos label in November.



Jason Evans



Huw Morgan



Elen Hydref

•**Erika Ohman** (2008) has celebrated five years in the percussion section of Hallé Orchestra.

•Harpist **Elen Hydref** (2011) has worked with numerous orchestras including the Royal Opera House, RPO, Norwegian National Opera and Birmingham Royal Ballet.

•Aurora Orchestra Pianist and Samling scholar **John Reid** (2009) is regular guest pianist with the Royal Northern Sinfonia chamber music programme; John also joined the Academy this year on the chamber music coaching staff.

'A student's choice of university makes a difference when it comes to finding a job or a place in a graduate program... The Royal Academy of Music was the only British post-secondary institute with a perfect score'

New York Times, July 2013



John Reid

Rated top
conservatoire for
student satisfaction
in the National
Student Survey
2013

•In 2013, **Jonathan Kelly** (1991) celebrated ten years as Principal Oboe of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.

•In the same city, **Fabian Schäfer** (2002) has been Solo Oboist at the Staatskapelle Berlin since 2005 under its general music director Daniel Barenboim.

•**Adam Walker** (2009) is Principal Flute with London Symphony Orchestra. His solo engagements during 2013/14 include premieres of concertos by Kevin Puts and Academy composition professor **Huw Watkins**.

•Recent woodwind graduates play with the BBC orchestras, CBSO, English National Opera, Gothenburg Opera, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Iceland Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, New York Metropolitan Opera, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Swedish Opera and Suisse Romande.

•**The Notus Winds** quintet from the Academy were resident at Brazil's Festival Internacional de Inverno de Campos do Jordão in July 2013.



Edward Gardner



Ludovic Morlot © Sussie Ahlburg



Ilan Volkov



Sir Simon Rattle

'This building has been absolutely at the centre of everything that I have done; everything that I have learnt' – Sir Simon Rattle talks at the Academy in March 2011

•**Edward Gardner** (2000) continues to work with orchestras across the world. Music Director of English National Opera since 2007, he became the Principal Guest Conductor of the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra in 2013 and in 2015 will take up his new appointment as Chief Conductor. In the 2012/13 season, he has also worked with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Frankfurt Radio, Toronto Symphony and the Swedish Radio Orchestra amongst many others.

•**Sir Simon Rattle** (1974) has announced a major London residency with the Berlin Philharmonic in 2015. •Along with a busy year of performances as Music Director of Seattle Symphony, **Ludovic Morlot** (2000) has released his first commercial recording: Bruneau's Requiem with the Orchestra of La Monnaie, of which he is Chief Conductor. •**Ilan Volkov** (1996) has enjoyed another productive year as Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

•**Daniele Rustioni** (2008) won Best Newcomer at the International Opera Awards in April 2013, and In February he was appointed as Music Director of the Teatro Petruzzelli in Bari. •**Francesco Pasqualetti** (2010) has been the visiting professor for Italian operatic repertoire at the National Opera Studio since 2010; he was recently assistant conductor for Nosedà's Rigoletto with the London Symphony Orchestra. •**Robin Davis** (2008) is Kapellmeister at Oldenburgisches Staatstheater. •**Felix Yeung** (2012), principal conductor of the Die Konzertisten Ensemble, conducted their 70th birthday celebrations of **Karl Jenkins** (1967) at Carnegie Hall.

Sian Edwards joined the Academy as our new Head of Conducting in September 2013. Sian's concert engagements in 2013 included a Proms matinee with the Britten Sinfonia. Recent and future operatic engagements include The Rape of Lucretia and La traviata for the Theater an der Wien, Orlando, a new ballet, for the Staatstheater Stuttgart, The Rake's Progress for Scottish Opera, Adès's The Tempest for Oper Frankfurt, and a concert performance of Tippett's King Priam at the Brighton Festival.

STOP PRESS: Mark Wigglesworth (1989) will succeed **Edward Gardner** as Music Director of English National Opera from September 2015.

The Academy's Director of Opera, **Jane Glover**, made her New York Metropolitan Opera debut in November. In the past year she has also conducted Eugene Onegin at the Academy, and appearances at Bordeaux and Opera Theatre of St Louis, amongst others.

Choral Conducting and Academic Studies professor **Paul Brough**, Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Singers, has also appeared with BBC Symphony Orchestra and the Ulster Orchestra as well as conducting a 'Dr Haydn's Inexhaustible Genius-Box' programme with the Academy's Chamber Orchestra at Kings Place.



Sian Edwards



Jane Glover



Paul Brough

Concerto Soloists

Many recent Academy alumni have also performed as soloists with internationally renowned orchestras.

•In April, **Simone Lamsma** (2005) performed Beethoven's Violin Concerto with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican. •**Pianist Llyr Williams** (2000) has played concertos with BBC NOW and Scottish Chamber Orchestra. •**Stefan Ciric** (2010) has performed with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and makes his debut with the London Philharmonic Orchestra in the New Year.

•Leader of the London Contemporary Orchestra **Daniel Pioro** (2010) has appeared as a soloist with the Orchestra of St John's and the LPO. •**Karim Said** (2013) curated and performed three concerts focused on Schoenberg's works for solo piano in the Southbank Centre's The Rest is Noise festival. •Current Masters pianist **Viviana Lasaracina**, winner of the New York Concert Artists and Associates' Debut Recital Audition, makes her Carnegie Hall debut in March 2014.

•In 2013, **Benjamin Grosvenor** (2012) performed at Leipzig Gewandhaus, Detroit Symphony Hall, Berlin Konzerthaus, Warsaw Philharmonic Concert Hall, Barbican Centre and Wigmore Hall amongst many others. •Current Academy postgraduate **Kristine Balanas** is preparing to perform Schubert's Rondo for Violin and Orchestra with the Moscow Soloists at the Barbican Hall, in a concert directed by Yuri Bashmet and featuring four Strads from the Academy's collections.



Lucy Crowe

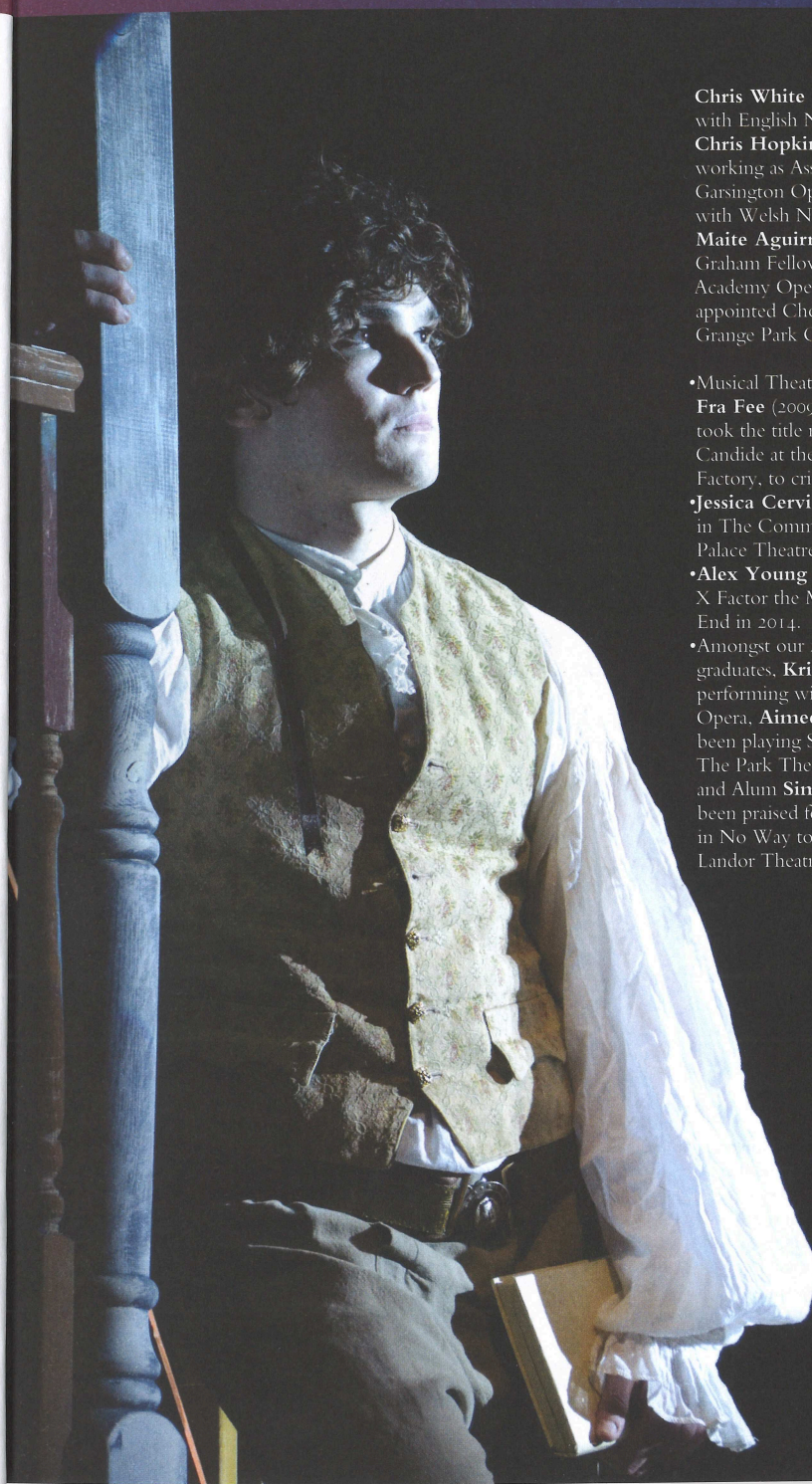


Allan Clayton

•Engagements as a soloist in 2014 for Royal Academy Opera soprano **Lucy Crowe** (2004) include performances with the Philharmonia and the London Symphony Orchestra, and the part of Adian in Royal Opera House's production of *l'Elisir d'Amore*.
 •**Mary Bevan** (2011) made her debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro*.
 •**Marcus Farnsworth** (2011) performed the part of Sid in Britten's *Albert Herring* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican.
 •**Ruth Jenkins-Robertsson** (2012) played the part of Zerlina in Scottish Opera's production of *Don Giovanni*.
 •**Viktor Rud** (2006) is in his fourth season as baritone soloist at the Hamburg State Opera.

•In the Autumn alone, tenor **Allan Clayton** (2007) performed numerous dates at Glyndebourne and for Theatre National de l'Opera Comique in Paris.
 •**Matthew Fletcher** (2011) was repetiteur for Sir Mark Elder's *Falstaff* at Glyndebourne; next year he will be repetiteur for Robin Ticciati's *Rosenkavalier*.
 •**Rodney Earl Clark** (2004) plays Crown in *Porgy and Bess* for the Royal Danish Opera Copenhagen in Spring 2014.
 •Baritone **Ronan Collett** (2006) made his debut with Stuttgart Opera in the Autumn in the role of Marcello in *La bohème*.
 •Recent tenor graduate **Stuart Jackson** (2013) sang the role of Don Ottavio in Stuttgart Opera Studio's *Don Giovanni*, performed in the main opera house.
 •Soprano **Aoife Miskelly** (2012) has joined Cologne Opera as an International Young Artist.

•Mezzo-soprano **Rachel Kelly** (2012) has been accepted on the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.
 •Baritone **Ross Ramgobin** (2013) was a semi-finalist in the Neue-Stimmen Competition.
 •Tenors **John Porter** (current student) and **Alexander Sprague** (2011), along with counter tenor **Damian Gancarski** (current student), were winners of the Opera Awards Foundation bursary for 2013.
 •Of the twelve places available on the National Opera Studio Programme, one third were given to Academy students: soprano **Sarah Jane Lewis** (2013), baritones **Adam Marsden** (2012) and **Ross Ramgobin** (2013), and bass **Frederick Long** (2012), who also won the Donald Anderson Award at Glyndebourne Festival Opera.



Chris White (2009) is repetiteur with English National Opera.
Chris Hopkins (2010) has been working as Assistant Conductor at Garsington Opera and also works with Welsh National Opera.
Maite Aguirre (recent Lucille Graham Fellow with Royal Academy Opera) has been appointed Chorus Master at Grange Park Opera.

•Musical Theatre graduate **Fra Fee** (2009) [pictured here] took the title role in Bernstein's *Candide* at the Menier Chocolate Factory, to critical acclaim.
 •**Jessica Cervi** (2012) is appearing in *The Commitments* at the Palace Theatre.
 •**Alex Young** (2010) will appear in *X Factor the Musical* on the West End in 2014.
 •Amongst our 2013 musical theatre graduates, **Kristin Lidstrom** is performing with Gothenburg Opera, **Aimee Matthews** has been playing *Sleeping Beauty* at The Park Theatre in Finsbury Park and Alum **Simon Loughton** has been praised for his appearance in *No Way to Treat a Lady* at the Landor Theatre.

•Current second-year composition student **James Moriarty** has been working with the LSO, gaining a place on their Panufnik Scheme.

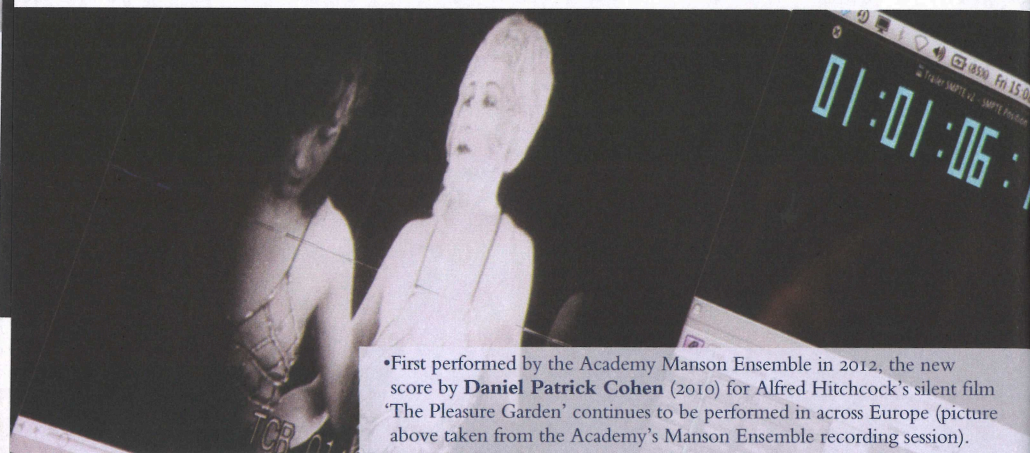
•**David Coonan** (2012) concluded his time on the scheme with the performance of his piece 'Sarcasms' for orchestra in April.

•Several works by PhD student **Richard Bullen** were premiered in 2013 through the LSO Soundhub Scheme: including his ambitious work for soprano, four vertically separated quartets of clarinet and strings, video and the entire building of LSO St Luke's.

•PhD student and founder of Size Zero Opera Company **Laura Bowler** (2011) was appointed composer in residence with

Manchester Camerata, where she'll work with violinist **Sophie Mather** (2010) and leader **Giovanni Guzzo** (2009), amongst other Academy connections.

•**Alexander Campkin** (2008) was commissioned by the Royal Opera House in March to compose 'Awake in Chorus', performed in the Paul Hamlyn Hall with Thurrock Community Chorus.



•First performed by the Academy Manson Ensemble in 2012, the new score by **Daniel Patrick Cohen** (2010) for Alfred Hitchcock's silent film 'The Pleasure Garden' continues to be performed in across Europe (picture above taken from the Academy's Manson Ensemble recording session).

•Former Manson Fellow **Robert Fokkens** (2001) has been appointed lecturer in composition at Cardiff University and will be releasing his debut chamber music CD on the Metier Label in early 2014.

•This year's Manson Fellowship was awarded to **Carter Callison** (2012).

•**Charlie Piper** (2013) is Associate Composer with Music in the Round in Sheffield until 2015; and Kettlehead, a first chamber opera by **Darren Bloom** (2006) was performed in August at the Tête-à-Tête Opera Festival and at Grimeborn.

•A third Live Music Sculpture by **Samuel Bordoli** (2012), commissioned by the City of London Festival, was performed in July at St Paul's Cathedral and heard by over 5000 people.

•**Xiaoian Shi** (2013) won first prize at this year's Transatlantyk International Film Music Competition, and was the youngest finalist for the second consecutive year, other projects have included working on a major BBC drama, and composing scores for television advertising.

•Flautist and composer **Dana Joras** (2013) won the 2013 National Flute Association Flute Choir Composition Competition.

•Head of Composition **Philip Cashian**, and Academy professors **David Sawyer** and **Tansy Davies** have all recorded works for NMC.

•In May **Luís Tinoco** (1999) released his album 'Round Time' on Naxos.

•**Roger Steptoe** (1977) has won a PRS for Music Foundation Award.

•Former professor **Peter Lea Cox** (1967) has donated to the Academy's library the original anthems which he composed for Sunday services at the Lutheran church of St Anne and St Agnes in Gresham Street, London.

•Academy staff, students and alumni were all exceptionally well represented at EFG London Jazz Week in November.

•The Academy's Head of Jazz, **Nick Smart**, performed with his new band Trogon and later in the week directed Troyk-estra in a concert celebrating the release of their live album. Formed out of Troyka – the trio of Academy alumni **Chris Montague** (2007), **Kit Downes** (2009) and **Joshua Blackmore** (2008) – Troyk-estra is the expanded Big Band version

packed with Academy students past and present.

•The new album Nonet by Jazz saxophonist and BBC Radio 3's

New Generation Artist **Trish Clowes** (2007) was shortlisted for the British Composer Awards.

In 2014 her new composition Sketch will be performed at Celtic

Connections by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and broadcast

live on BBC Radio 3 – alongside a new work by fellow alumnus

Gwilym Simcock (2003), who is now also a professor at the Academy.



Gwilym Simcock



Laura Bowler



Trish Clowes

Ji Liu (2013) has released his debut recording with Classic FM, only months after graduating from the Academy. His *Piano Reflections* features 'ten of the most beautiful piano classics of all time': from Beethoven, Chopin and Debussy to Liszt, Schubert and Tchaikovsky by way of Chinese composer Lu Wencheng. He has also spoken about his latest hobby in interviews with Classic FM: 'after doing my breakdancing, I can play Hungarian Rhapsodies without any problem! It takes me out of my comfort zone... I can feel the rhythm.'

In December 2013 **Yevgeny Sudbin** (2006, and now Visiting Professor at the Academy) released on BIS the second instalment of his complete Beethoven Concertos with Osmo Vänskä and the Minnesota Orchestra. Earlier in the year BIS also released his latest recording with Singapore Symphony Orchestra conducted by Lan Shui: Rachmaninov's First Concerto. The Critics' Circle presented him with their Exceptional Young Talent award in the Instrumentalist category.

Kit Armstrong (2008) has recorded his debut disc for Sony, to be released in February 2014. Along with works by Bach and Ligeti, the disc includes his own Fantasy on B-A-C-H.



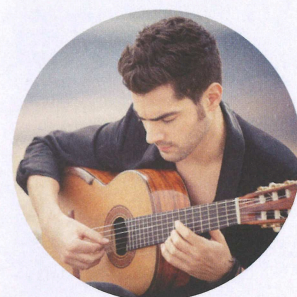
Kit Armstrong



Ji Liu



Daniel-Ben Pienaar



Milos Karadaglic © Lars Borges, Mercury Classics



Martynas Levickis

Accordionist **Martynas Levickis** (2012) has secured a five-CD contract with Decca Records

•Jazz trumpeter and winner of the 2012 Kenny Wheeler Prize **Reuben Fowler** (2012) has been playing with Boy George's band and has released his debut album to much critical acclaim.

•2013 winner of the Kenny Wheeler Prize, jazz vocalist and composer **Lauren Kinsella** (2013), will be releasing an album in 2014 as part of the prize.

•The flourishing swing band Man Overboard, featuring principal violinist of the Aurora Orchestra **Thomas Gould** (2006), released their first album 'All Hands on Deck'. As a soloist, Thomas performed in the LPO's Classical Spectacular concert series at the Royal Albert Hall.

•Harpist **Stephanie Beck** (2007) has played in LPO's Classical Spectacular concert series and also plays regularly with CBSO, RLPO, City of London Sinfonia and for Holland Park Opera.

The most recent CD release by **Daniel-Ben Pienaar** (1997, now Curzon Lecturer in Performance Studies) is a new recording of Book 1 of Bach's '48' coupled with a remastered version of the 2004 recording of Book 2 – selected as Instrumental Choice by BBC Music Magazine. He is now absorbed in the Beethoven sonatas (he has recorded 27, with the completion of the series scheduled for 2014). In December he performed the entire Well Tempered Clavier at Kings Place, from memory over consecutive evenings.

•**Luka Sulic** (2012), part of the hugely successful cello duo 2Cellos, released his second album *Inzition* in January. The album was produced by Bob Ezrin and features guest vocalists and instrumentalists including former Junior Academy Exhibitioner **Sir Elton John**.
•Current piano students **Chiyan Wong** and **Aurele Marthan** recorded a new Ravel disc on the French label Polymnie.
•**Benjamin Grosvenor** (2012) has released his latest recording on Decca, of favourites by Saint-Saëns, Ravel and Gershwin.

•Pianist **Jocelyn Freeman** (2009) launched her CD in February at the Forge, Camden.

•Jazz pianist and composer **John Escreet** (2006) released his fifth album 'Sabotage and Celebration' on Whirlwind Recordings.

•**Matthew Berry** (2002) is the director of the chamber choir Commotio: their new Chilcott CD 'The Rose in the Middle of Winter' reached number one on the Amazon choral chart in October.

•Violinist **Nazrin Rashidova** (2009)'s debut CD of Godowsky's works for violin and piano was launched with a performance at Wigmore Hall.

•Recent performances by LSO principal flute **Adam Walker** (2009) have included the premiere of a new Flute Concerto by professor of composition **Huw Watkins** with the LSO and a recital at Wigmore Hall for the release of his first CD.

•Cellist **Oliver Coates** (2004) released his new album in December.

•**Caroline MacPhie** (2009) will record her debut album on the theme of women in song with **Joseph Middleton** (2005) in 2014.

•**Kit Downes** (2009) appears on the new album by **James Allsopp** (2003).

•**Tanya Houghton** (2006) is the principal harpist of the Aurora Orchestra, Opera East and the English Touring Opera; as a freelancer she works regularly with CBSO and the Ulster Orchestra.

•On the other side of the recording desk, recent trombone graduate **Cyrus Reynolds** (2013) has taken a sound engineer position with Guy Chambers, producer for a host of pop artists including Kylie Minogue, Tina Turner, Jamie Cullum, Andrea Bocelli and Tom Jones.

•In 2013 the Academy's Principal, **Professor Jonathan Freeman-Attwood**, produced commercial recordings for **Rachel Podger** (Micaela Comberti Chair of Baroque Violin) and

Trevor Pinnock (Principal Guest Conductor, Academy Concert Orchestra) on Linn, **Daniel-Ben Pienaar** (2003) on Avie, The Cardinal's Musick on Hyperion, and La Nuova Musica on Harmonia Mundi USA. At the end of the year, he also recorded, on the trumpet, the newly-discovered Vocalises by Faure in a 'world premiere' recording with pianist-scholar and Academy Fellow **Roy Howat**.

Just a few minutes' walk from the Academy's new Cross Keys Close rehearsal and practice centre, Wigmore Hall played host to many of our students and alumni in 2013.

•The 2013 Wigmore Hall late series was kicked off by alumnus and award-winning guitarist **Milos Karadaglic** (2006). This year Milos has appeared on tour with the LPO, released his album *Latino Gold*, and performed on television world-wide.

•Pianist **Benjamin Grosvenor** (2012) has appeared as a soloist in London, Vermont, Detroit, Paris, Bilbao, Berlin, Warsaw, Chicago and many more.
•Fellow pianist **Chiyan Wong** (2012) has also given solo recitals world-wide.



James Baillieu © Kaupo Kikkas



Gareth John



Jennifer France

•In July as part of a residency at Wigmore Hall, a recital by counter-tenor **Iestyn Davies** (2005) was recorded for the Sky Arts channel.

•**James Baillieu** (2008), Bortolli-Buitoni Trust Fellowship and YCAT winner, curated a song recital series at Wigmore Hall. As a soloist James has performed with the English Chamber Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall.

•**Ji Liu** (2013) won the Young Classical Artists Trust competition; the only other pianist to reach the finals was current student **Viviana Lasacarina**, who performed her debut at Carnegie Hall earlier in the year – another Academy connection, as its Executive and Artistic Director **Sir Clive Gillinson** studied cello and piano here in the late 1960s.

•Our 2012 Patrons' Award winner, **Jennifer France** (2013), released a recital of Debussy songs on Hyperion in the Autumn, and has performed with Opera North and Garsington Opera.

•Competitions at Wigmore Hall included the 2013 Kathleen Ferrier Awards:

— First Prize: baritone **Gareth Brynmor John** (2013), accompanied by **Matthew Fletcher** (2012); Gareth also won the Academy's own Patrons' Award at Wigmore Hall in May.

— Song Prize: baritone **Johnny Herford** (2012), accompanied by **William Vann** (2007); the same pairing won the Jean Meikle Prize at the 2013 Wigmore Hall/Kohn Foundation International Song Competition, in which the Academy was represented by an unprecedented 15 competitors across singers and accompanists.

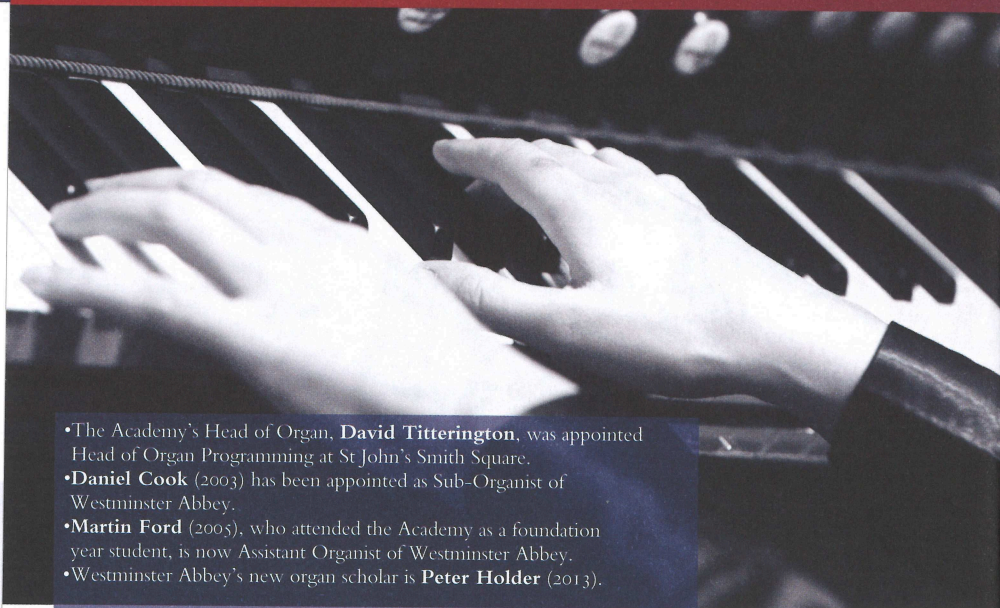
•An exceptional number of alumni appeared at the 2013 Cheltenham International Festival, including pianists **Joseph Tong** (1995), **Dominic Harlan** (1994), **Waka Hasegawa** (1998), **Christopher Glynn** (2000), **Simon Crawford-Philips** (1999), **Alexei Grynyuk** (2002) and current postgraduate **Nikolai Ponomarev**, violist **Eoin Schmidt-Martin** (2005), cellist **Emma Denton** (2001), guitarist **Manus Noble** (2012) and mezzo-soprano **Clara Mouriz** (2005).
•**Joanna MacGregor**, Academy alumna and Head of Piano Studies, presented her seventh and final programme as Artistic Director of Bath International Music Festival.

Performers included the Piatti Quartet – **Nathaniel Anderson-Frank** (2011), **Michael Trainor** (2010), **David Wigram** and **Jessie Ann Richardson** (2010) – with violinist **Francesca Barritt** (2012), horn player **Anna Douglass** (2013) and pianist **Masahiro Yamaguchi** (2013), and, in a fast-paced Magic Flute, singers **Andri Björn Róbertsson** (2013), **Aoife Miskelly** (2012), **Helen Bailey** (2013), **Johnny Herford** (2012), **Ruth Jenkins** (2012), **Sam Furness** (2013) and **Thomas Elwin** (2013). **Benjamin Grosvenor** (2012), **Reinis Zarins** (2011) and **Gwilym Simcock** (2003) also gave recitals.



Joanna MacGregor





- The Academy's Head of Organ, **David Titterton**, was appointed Head of Organ Programming at St John's Smith Square.
- Daniel Cook** (2003) has been appointed as Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey.
- Martin Ford** (2005), who attended the Academy as a foundation year student, is now Assistant Organist of Westminster Abbey.
- Westminster Abbey's new organ scholar is **Peter Holder** (2013).

- Current postgraduate **Alastair Finlay** won the Accompanist prize in the Kathleen Ferrier Society Bursary for Young Singers. Since the turn of the century, nine winners of this prize have studied at the Academy; the winner in 2012, **Craig White** (2007), is now the official accompanist for Hampshire Singing Competition.
- Amongst our many successful accompanists detailed throughout these pages, **Simon Lepper** (1998) and **Christopher Glynn** (2000) have both partnered many leading singers.
- Yue Shen** (2005) is the pianist with Peking Sinfonietta and has

given numerous chamber music and Lieder recitals, including many works never previously performed in China.

- Current piano student **Alexandra Vaduva** was second in the Orpheus Young Musician of the Year Piano Competition.
- Manon Fischer-Dieskau** (2013) was awarded the Hodgson Fellowship at the Academy.
- Chad Vindin** (2013) won the Accompanist Prize at the Maureen Lehane Vocal Awards at Wigmore Hall in November 2013.
- Joseph Middleton** (2005) has been asked by Cambridge

University to direct their new Lieder Duo scheme and was the first accompanist to be included in BBC Music Magazine's 'Rising Star' feature. He has performed recently at the Concertgebouw, Vienna's Konzerthaus and Wigmore Hall, and his broadcasts for BBC Radio 3 have included a recital with Visiting Professor of Singing **Dame Felicity Lott**.

- Accompanist **Andrew Matthews-Owen** (2005) wrote for Music Teacher Magazine about neuro-linguistic programming work by his mentor, pianist **Christine Croshaw** (1965).

- Libby Burgess** (2009) is also the artistic director of the Music at St Peter's recital series, has established a new Konstellations series, and has recently played in song recitals at Wigmore Hall, St John's Smith Square, and at Festivals including Aldeburgh and Oxford Lieder.
- Pianist **Sholto Kynoch** (2004) is the founder of the Oxford Lieder Festival; he recorded complete Wolf songs live at the festival, with excellent reviews by Gramophone Magazine
- Pianist **Simon Lane** (2008) was similarly applauded by Gramophone Magazine for his recording of Britten's Cello Sonata with Philip Higham.

- Soprano **Sarah-Jane Lewis** (2013) won first prize at Hampshire Singing Competition.
- Current student tenor **Richard Dowling** won the Song Prize at Hampshire Singing Competition.
- Finnigan Downie Dear** (2013) was awarded the Gerald Moore Accompanists Prize at Hampshire Singing Competition.
- Pianist and chamber musician **Libby Burgess** (2009) was an official accompanist for the Hampshire Singing Competition.

- Leverhulme Fellows for 2012/13 the Jubilee Quartet – violinists **Tereza Privratska** (2010) and **Alanna Tonetti Tieppo** (2012), violist **Stephanie Edmundson** (2011) and cellist **Lauren Steel** (2012) – won third prize at the Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition.

- The Bernardel Quartet** and the **Alauda Quartet** have both been awarded the Leverhulme Chamber Music fellowship for 2013/14 along with **Total Brass**, who as winners of the Tunnell Trust Award will perform in music clubs throughout Scotland over 2014/15.

- Current student **Thomas Primrose** was the recipient of the Brenda Webb Award for accompanists at the Academy.

- The prestigious Richard Lewis/Jean Shanks Award for postgraduate singers at the Academy was won by postgraduate soprano **Christina Gansch**, who has also won the 19th Ferruccio Tagliavini International Competition, Dame Joan Sutherland Prize and Karl Bohm Prize for Mozart Interpretation.

- Postgraduate soprano **Rhiannon Llewellyn** won the Maggie Teyte Prize Miriam Licette Award, with a recital in the Crush Room at the Royal Opera House.

- Tenor **Oliver Johnston** (2013), soprano **Sofia Larsson** (2013) and student baritones **Bozidar Smiljanic** and **Henry Neill** were all given awards by the Musicians' Benevolent Fund.

- Countertenor **Kangmin Justin Kim** (2013) was the winner of the Les Azuriales Young Singers' Competition.

- First prize in the National Mozart Competition was awarded to baritone **Andri Bjorn Robertsson** (2013).

- Tenor **Rupert Charlesworth** (2013) was the winner of the Handel Singing Competition.

- At the London Bach Society's Bach Singers Prize in November, three of the four finalists were Academy students.

Silver medal awarded by the Academy to William Sterndale Bennett in 1833



- Soprano **Jodie Devos** (2013) was awarded first prize in the Bell'Art International Voice Competition in Braine, L'Alleud Belgium.

- Student soprano **Tereza Gevorgyan** was awarded first prize in the Thelma King Award and also the Pavarotti Prize at the Academy.

- Violinist **Sadie Fields** (2011) was the winner of the Emerging Excellence Award from the Musicians Benevolent Fund.

- Current student **Maria Wloszczowska** won first prize and the audience prize at the International Strings Contest in Minsk.

- Mathilde Calderini** (2013) won first prize in the Kobe International Flute Competition. Mathilde was part of the South Bank Sinfonia Programme for 2013; viola player **Maria Niedbala** (2011) and cellists **Tom Wraith** (2013) and **Gudny Jonasdottir** (2013) join the ensemble for 2014.

- The harp position at the LPO Foyle Future Firsts Graduate Scheme has been awarded to Academy harpists three years in a row: **Rachel Wick** (2013), **Rebecca Royce** (2011), and for 2013/14, **Olivia Jageurs** (2013).

- Yuko Tomonaga** (2010) won the top category at the Slovenian Harp Competition.

- Magdalena Hoffmann** (2012), who has been appointed principal harp of Osnabruck Symphony Orchestra, came second in the Slovenian Harp Competition; and current undergraduate **Klara Woskowiak** was the winner in her category.

- Nanako Murakami** (2008) won Osaka Harp Competition and enjoys a busy freelance career in Tokyo; and current undergraduate **Catherine Derrick** won second prize in the Martine Geliot Harp Competition.

- Accordionist **Ksenija Sidorova** (2012) received the 'Great Music Award', the highest state honour in Latvia.

- Accordionist **Martynas Levickis** (2012) has been named official Tourism Ambassador for Lithuania.

- Second-year undergraduate **Joao Lima** was the winner of the Fundao Guitar Competition in Portugal.

- Postgraduate guitarist **Mircea Gogoncea** was first in the Julian Arcas competition in Spain.

- Current postgraduate **Andrey Lebedev** became the first guitarist to win the 25th Gisborne International Music Competition in New Zealand – as well as the prize for the best performance of a work by Bach.

- Postgraduate student **Srdan Bulat** was second in the London International Guitar Competition held at Kings Place.

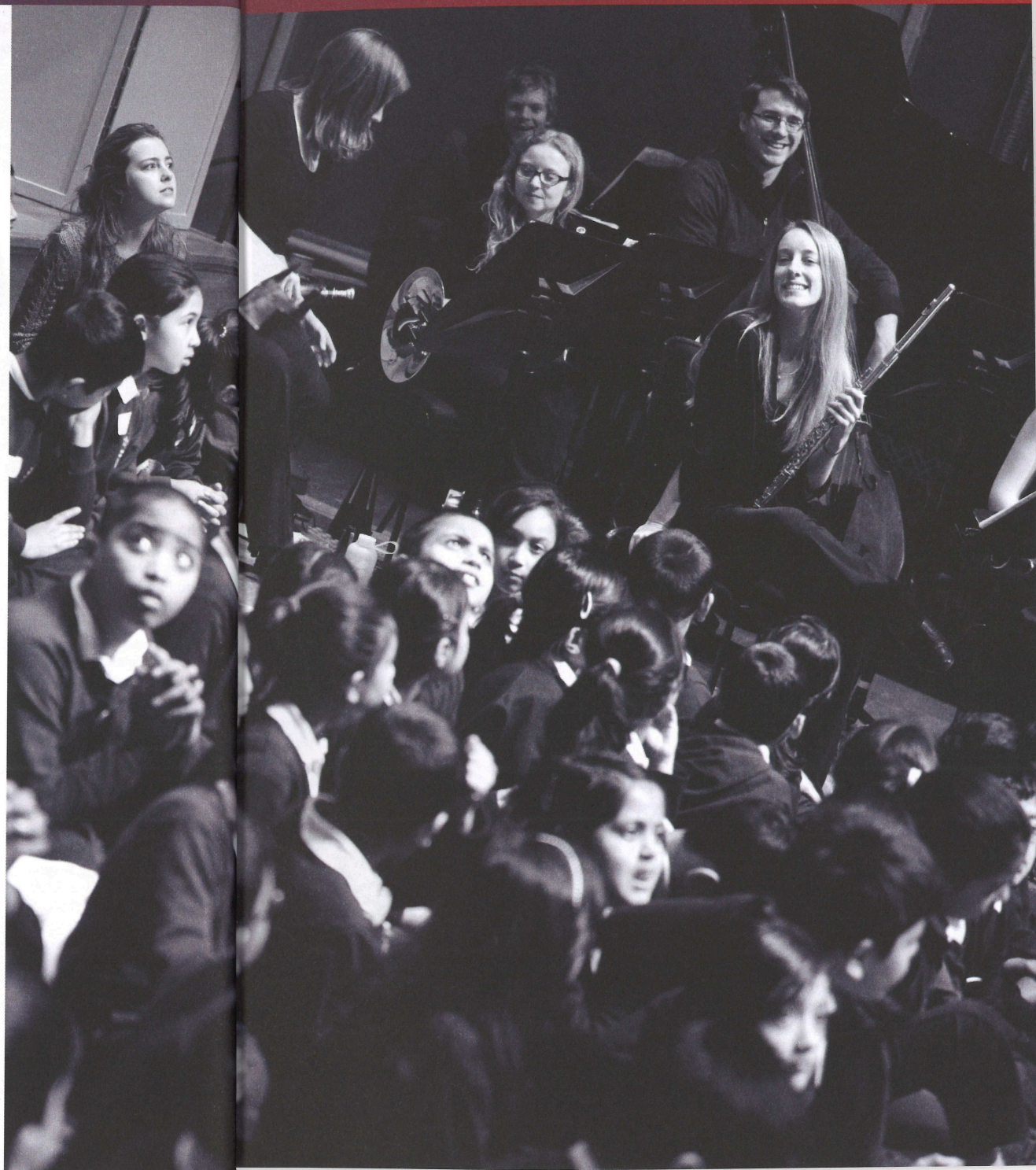
- Undergraduate **Merlin Miller** won the Lennox Berkeley Society's Guitar Award.

Outreach and education work takes Academy alumni across the world.

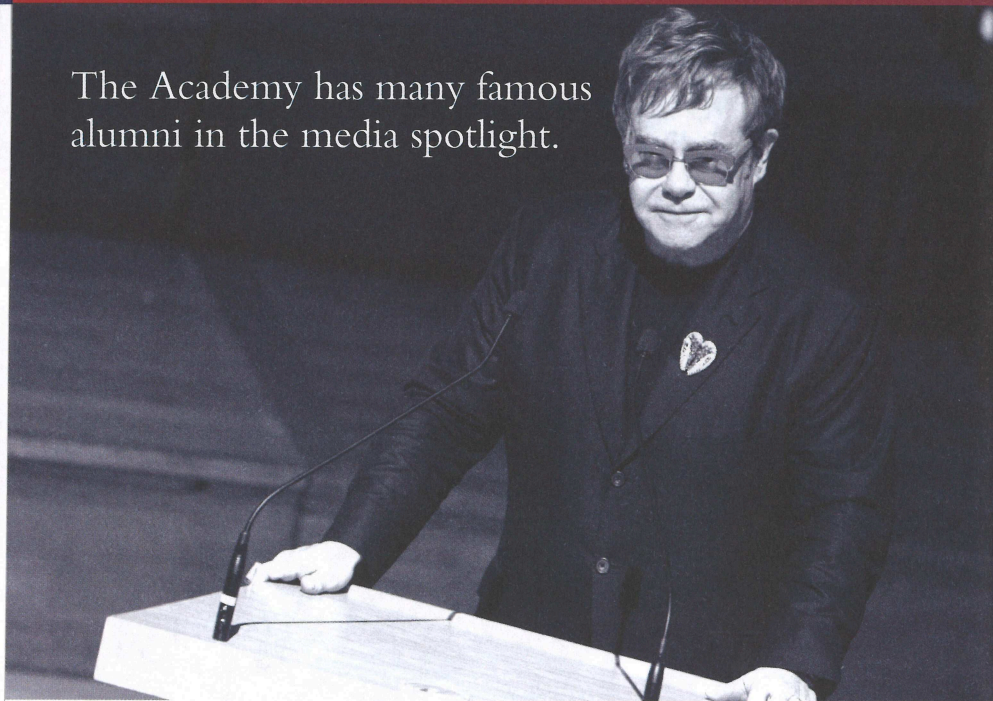
- Recent graduates **Hannah Bishop** (2013) and **Chelsea Cowan** (2013) travelled to the Himalayas during the summer as part of a music/cultural exchange programme.
- Twelfth Day, a duo formed by violinist **Catriona Price** (2013) with harpist Esther Swift, have been sharing folk music traditions in Canada, Malawi, Brazil and Mongolia, supported through the Academy's participation in the Deutsche Bank Awards.
- Violinist **Joe Harrop** (2007) is Programme Director of Sistema Aotearoa in his native New Zealand.
- MA Choral Conducting student **Robbie Jacobs** is a Choral Animateur for Dartford Choral Outreach and the Founder and Artistic Director of Voices For All.
- Claire Jones** (2009) was the Official Harpist to HRH The Prince of Wales until 2011; she now regularly visits schools and communities as an ambassador for The Prince of Wales's Children and the Arts Foundation.
- The **Antara Duo** – harpist **Rachel Wick** (2013) and flautist **Thomas Hancox** (2013) – have been accepted on Wigmore Hall's 'For Crying Out Loud' programme and are also working with Live Music Now!
- After working as Trainee Animateur for Wigmore Hall Learning, cellist **Hermione Jones** (2012) now manages the Irene Taylor Trust's 'Music in Prisons' projects. She recently set up her own company, BaaHumBug Music, running early years music-making sessions for under 5s.
- Kristen Predl** (2012) is Education Director at Symphony of Northwest Arkansas.
- Pianist **Nan Nan Wang** (2007) has joined the staff at Beijing Conservatory as an accompanist.
- Recent Harp Graduates **Lau Yee Yeung** (2011) and **Jimin Lee** (2012) have taken prestigious teaching positions in Hong Kong and Korea respectively.

'A student's choice of university makes a difference when it comes to finding a job or a place in a graduate program... The Royal Academy of Music was the only British post-secondary institute with a perfect score'
– New York Times, July 2013

'Elemental Songs and Dances' by Academy PhD student Richard Bullen: world premiere, presented by Open Academy and Spitalfields Music. A performance by primary school children from Tower Hamlets, current Academy students and Open Academy Fellows. Shortlisted in the 'Community or educational project' category at BASCA's British Composer Awards 2013.



The Academy has many famous alumni in the media spotlight.



•**Gareth Malone** (2005) has launched his new 'Voices' professional choir. An episode of his latest BBC2 television series was filmed at the Academy during the Summer, when five amateur choirs received expert coaching from alumni **Esther Jones** (2007), **Greg Hallam** (2010), **Hilary Campbell** (2012), **Will Dawes** (2006), **Tansy Castledine** (2003) along with

Head of Musical Theatre **Bjorn Dobbelaere**, Baroque Dance tutor **Mary Collins** and Head of Alexander Technique **Paul Moore**. •Past and present Musical Theatre students directed by Head of Department, **Bjorn Dobbelaere**, performed with former Junior Exhibitioner **Sir Elton John** during the Summer on ITV's Brit Icon Award Show.

•2013 graduates **Matthew Blunt** (tuba), **Chris Augustine** (trombone), **Ross Learmonth** (trombone) and **Robert Smith** (trumpet) also played on the worldwide broadcast ITV show and then with Sir Elton on BBC Radio 2 and for the iTunes Festival at the Roundhouse.



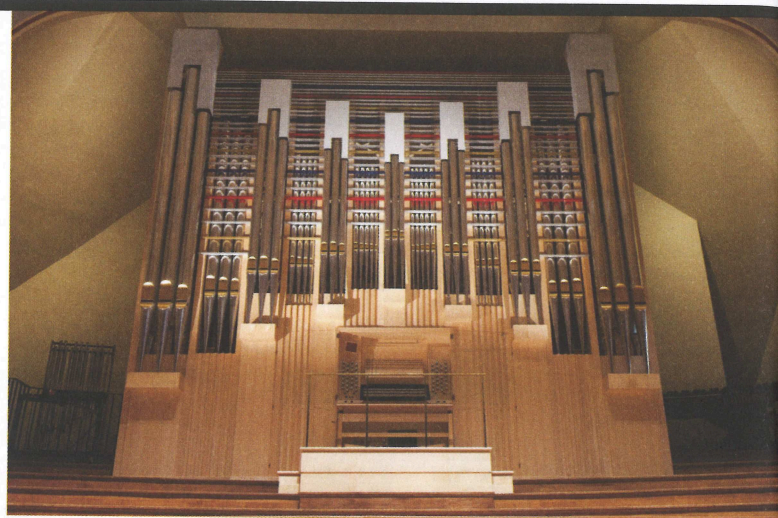
•**Katie Thomas** (2007) is Musical Director of the Brighton Consort Chamber Choir and a tutor with National Youth Choir of Wales. This year she was chosen as one of three international choral experts to sit on the adjudication panel for a Welsh choral competition, broadcast on television; further television appearances included commenting on the Choir of the World Competition. •Current composition student **Lloyd Coleman** was commissioned to write a piece for BBCNOW and was the subject of a BBC documentary. His 'Taking Notes' podcasts are available on iTunes. •**Andrew Linner** (2012) recently appeared on ITV's 'This Morning' as one of the cast promoting new West End musical 'The Commitments'. •**Alison Arnopp** (2012) came third in the Lotte Lenya Competition presented by the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music. •Violinist **Flora Curzon** (2013) has been touring with traditional song singer Sam Lee.

•Kenny Wheeler Award winner **Josh Arcoleo** (2011) and fellow saxophonist **James Gardiner-Bateman** (2013) are part of popular singer Joss Stone's band. •Jazz piano trio Phronesis, co-led by Academy professor **Jasper Hoiby** (2004) and **Ivo Neame** (2003), have toured worldwide. •Jazz pianist **Hannah Vasanth** (2001) has worked with a host of pop stars including Charlotte Church, Will Young, Girls Aloud and Rihanna, and is on tour with Jessie J. •Drummer **Bob Knight** (1999) has worked with many artists live, in the studio and on television, including Michael Bublé, Seal, Alfie Boe and **Katherine Jenkins** (2002). •Horn player **Michael Kidd** (2011) has performed on commercial projects including recordings with Stevie Wonder, Robbie Williams, Mary J Blige and James Arthur, and also plays regularly with orchestras around London and across the country.

•Pianist **Iain Farrington** (2001), who memorably performed alongside Rowan Atkinson at the Olympic Opening Ceremony with the LSO under **Sir Simon Rattle** (1974), enjoys a varied career as pianist, organist, composer and arranger and has recorded his solo piano transcription of Elgar's Second Symphony for Dutton Epoch. •Harpischorist **Penelope Cave** (1974) recently project-managed and appeared in four short films for the National Trust at Tatton Park. •On the big screen, early-1960s graduates **John Georgiadis**, **Ita Herbet** and **Graeme Scott** appeared in the feature film Quartet. •2012 composition graduate **Daniel McCallum** (2012) has worked as Assistant to the orchestrator of feature film 'The Hobbit- An Unexpected Journey' and 'Hyde Park on Hudson', and many other films including 'Two Days in The Smoke', 'Ms Fantasia', 'We Need to Talk' and 'Blood & Dust'.



FEATURE / WELCOMING THE SIR ELTON JOHN / RAY COOPER ORGAN

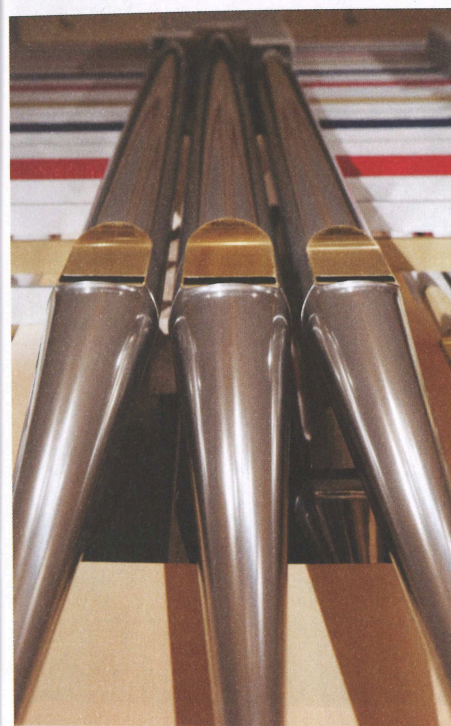


In October, staff, students and friends welcomed the latest addition to the Academy's home: a magnificent new symphonic organ bearing the names of former Academy students Sir Elton John and his long-standing percussionist, Ray Cooper.

Over the past year we have witnessed the creation of a truly world-class instrument – both in Kuhn Orgelbau's Swiss workshop near Lake Zurich and on our webcam over summer 2013 – as it moved towards completion in the Duke's Hall. We watched tens of thousands of component parts (miniscule, large and truly enormous), in all

sorts of materials, skillfully and meticulously assembled. The result is a precision-built thoroughbred instrument of the highest quality, and is undoubtedly also a work of art.

You can read more about the technical specifications at www.ram.ac.uk/organ.



Head of Organ David Titterton, in consultation with fellow professors at the Academy, carefully drew up the detailed specification of the organ to suit all aspects of Academy life. David writes: 'The tonal concept of the organ is based around the multiple functions of the second (Solo) manual. Similar to a French bombarde organ, this division has substantial reeds and a cornet but also serves as a real Solo manual.' The more classically voiced Great and the French inspired Swell are designed to complement one another, the juxtaposition of manuals enabling a large dynamic range with finely differentiated tone colours. This ensures the instrument is particularly suitable for performances with orchestra and for music of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The juxtaposition of the confident, contemporary appearance of the instrument within the elegant Duke's Hall embodies the artistic inspirations of the Academy – described by the Principal, Professor Jonathan Freeman-Attwood, as the 'healthy interaction between tradition and innovation that is an essential and inspiring feature of so much Academy life'.

Sir Elton and Ray performed two special concerts to raise funds for the organ, the installation of which became an avowed personal mission for Sir Elton. In 2009, a spectacular evening of entertainment at the Royal Albert Hall included special guest Teddy Thompson and students from the Academy. Further funds were raised in 2011 at a Royal Opera House performance, which also included an auction with prizes including a Roberto Cavalli dress and Sir Elton's piano stool.



Sir Elton John and Ray Cooper both spent early years at the Royal Academy of Music, and Sir Elton has always regarded his training as a Junior Academy Exhibitioner as vitally important. He has commented: 'I am so proud to be able to support the Academy in any way I can and will always be grateful to them for opening the doors for me and so many other musicians to develop our talents and live our lives in music'.

An enthusiastic audience packed the Duke's Hall in October to hear the instrument for the first time. Sir Elton himself put the instrument to the test when he performed alongside Academy Brass students at a private dinner in October. International soloists Bine Bryndorf and Wolfgang Zerer demonstrated the instrument's versatility with Bach recitals later in the term.

We cannot thank Sir Elton John and Ray Cooper enough for their overwhelming generosity and support.

'My years at the Academy have given me more than I ever thought they would... looking back at the musical education I received when I came here, it has been one of the greatest benefits and the greatest joys of my life... you can feel the incredible atmosphere when you walk through these doors and you see the hubbub of musicians passing each other in the corridors, this is a place of sheer joy and exuberance, this is a place of meticulous artistry, where futures are built, this is a place where people come to learn a craft, where talents are passed on from generation to generation'
Sir Elton John talks at the Academy in October 2013



NEWS/ Appointments



Howard Ionascu | Director of Junior Academy

Throughout the year, the Academy has continued to add to an exceptional roster of Visiting Professors and principal-study teachers.

Selected as one of the world's seven best conservatoires by Spears Magazine, February 2014

In September, the Academy welcomed **Howard Ionascu** as full-time Director of Junior Academy. As a busy Musical Director he has worked with Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir, City of London Choir and most recently at The King's School, Canterbury.

His extensive experience will be invaluable in training Junior Academy's talented young musicians to their highest potential. By continuing the outstanding work of **Jonathan Willcocks** and **Ben Parry**, Howard will be taking on Junior Academy with a superb staff well-equipped to offer the best opportunities to our youngest talent.

The Conducting Department welcomed **Sian Edwards** as Head of Conducting in June. Her plans include making further connections with our visiting conductors, who in the past year have included **Sir Mark Elder**, **Semyon Bychkov** and **Trevor Pinnock**. Her predecessor, **Colin Metters**, is the longest-serving Head of Study at the Academy — thirty years in the post — and will continue to impart his valued knowledge as a conducting professor. Sian Edwards said: 'I look forward to the challenge of

continuing and developing the training of young conductors at the Academy, combining creativity with the flexibility and resourcefulness needed to succeed in the fast-evolving musical world.'



Sian Edwards | Head of Conducting

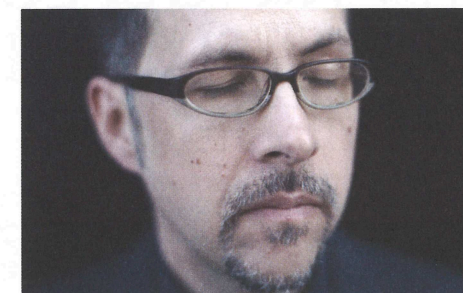
Head of Jazz **Nick Smart** announced the appointments of International Jazz Artist in Residence **Dave Holland** alongside Grammy-award-winning **John Hollenbeck** as Visiting Professor of Jazz. **Mike Lovatt**, lead trumpet of the John Wilson Orchestra and member of the BBC Big Band, has joined the Academy in the new role of 'Derek Watkins Chair of Trumpet'. Mike has played on many movie soundtracks with the London Symphony Orchestra and has recorded a wide range of styles with artists including Robbie Williams, Shirley Bassey and numerous orchestras. Our Jazz and Brass departments will both greatly benefit from his wide-ranging professional experience and knowledge. **Mark David**, Head of Brass, also welcomed English National Opera Orchestra player **Will O'Sullivan** as professor of trumpet and **Adam Woolf** as professor of baroque trombone.

Margaret Faultless, Head of Historical Performance, welcomed **Pamela Thorby** as professor of recorder. Described by BBC Radio 3 as 'the queen of the recorder', Pamela appears on a wide range of recordings from medieval music to collaborations with leading jazz, folk and pop artists. Pamela will join a strong Historical Performance teaching roster that includes **Rachel Podger** (Micaela Combetti Chair of Baroque Violin) and **Laurence Cummings** (William Crotch Professor of Historical Performance), amongst many others.

The Choral Conducting department welcomed long-time collaborators **Dr David Hill** and **James O'Donnell** as Visiting Professors. Director of many esteemed ensembles including The Bach Choir and Chief Conductor of the BBC Singers, David's award-winning discography covers over 70 recordings. Adding to his role as Visiting Professor of Organ, James O'Donnell has been the organist and Master of the Choristers of Westminster Abbey since January 2000.

In addition to our teaching staff the Academy has appointed three new independent members to the Governing Body: **Dame Jenny Abramsky**, **Lady Heywood** and **Professor Sir Richard Trainor**. From the start of the 2014-15 academic year, Dame Jenny will also be the Chair of the Governing Body taking over from **Lord Burns**, who retires after twelve years in this crucial role (see page 24).

As a constituent college of the University of London since 1999, the Academy has appointed three new University of London Professors: **Joanna MacGregor OBE**, Head of Piano and international soloist; **Dr Neil Heyde**, cellist of the Kreutzer Quartet and Head of Postgraduate Programmes at the Academy; and **Mark Wildman**, long-standing Head of Vocal Studies. Finally, the Academy has appointed two University of London Readers: Postgraduate Tutor **Roderick Chadwick** and Sir Barbirolli Lecturer in Music **Dr Raymond Holden**. **Professor Jonathan Freeman-Attwood**, Principal of the Academy, said: 'I am delighted to announce these latest appointments. I salute these exceptionally versatile musicians, whose achievements reflect the high quality and breadth of teaching at the Academy'.



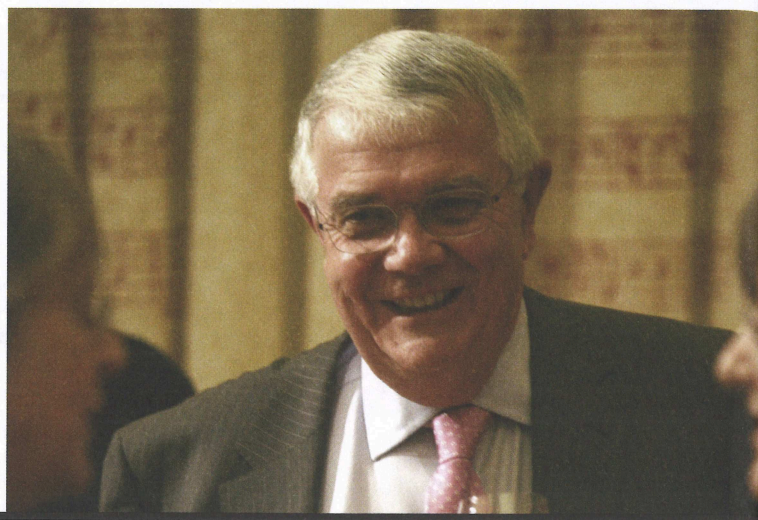
John Hollenbeck | Visiting Professor of Jazz



Pamela Thorby | Professor of Recorder (left)



Joanna MacGregor OBE | Head of Piano (right)



FEATURE / THANK YOU, LORD BURNS — AND WELCOME TO DAME JENNY

The Principal, Professor Jonathan Freeman-Attwood, gives a personal appreciation to two Chairs of the Governing Body — and, as always, looks to the future.

As I write, a bit more than six months remain in Lord Burns's period as Chair of the Academy's Governing Body. This alone is a long time in the life of a conservatoire — which just goes to show what an exceptional term of office Lord Burns has served in fulfilling this crucial post, with remarkable distinction, for more than a decade. Terry's qualities are manifold and the Academy has been the beneficiary of each one of them. He is a significant public figure who chairs major organisations — banks, PLCs, television companies — and treats the Academy as every bit as important as anything else in his busy life. During my period as both Principal and Vice-Principal I could not have wished for someone who

respects more the ethos and mission of the Academy, encouraging stability while at the same time supporting ambitious plans and ideas as the Academy moves ever forward.

Above all, Terry has offered a range of advice that simply could not have been bettered. And this authority and overview has percolated through to all levels of the institution — all have appreciated Terry's quiet custodianship, his support of Academy events, his genuine love of music and the way he has always sought to challenge in the most constructive and supportive way. Personally speaking, I have always felt able to raise any issue whatsoever with him.

Terry is of course also hugely great company, always more than ably supported by his wife, Anne. He is a great believer that with hard work and achievement there should also be enjoyment — which remarkably also extends to his curious love of Queens Park Rangers Football Club.

The Governing Body and Senior Management Team are delighted to announce that Lord Burns will be joining Sir David Lumsden, Sir Elton John and David Josefowitz as Vice Presidents of the Academy. This is an honour which demonstrates a contribution well beyond the call of duty, and that's Terry Burns all over.

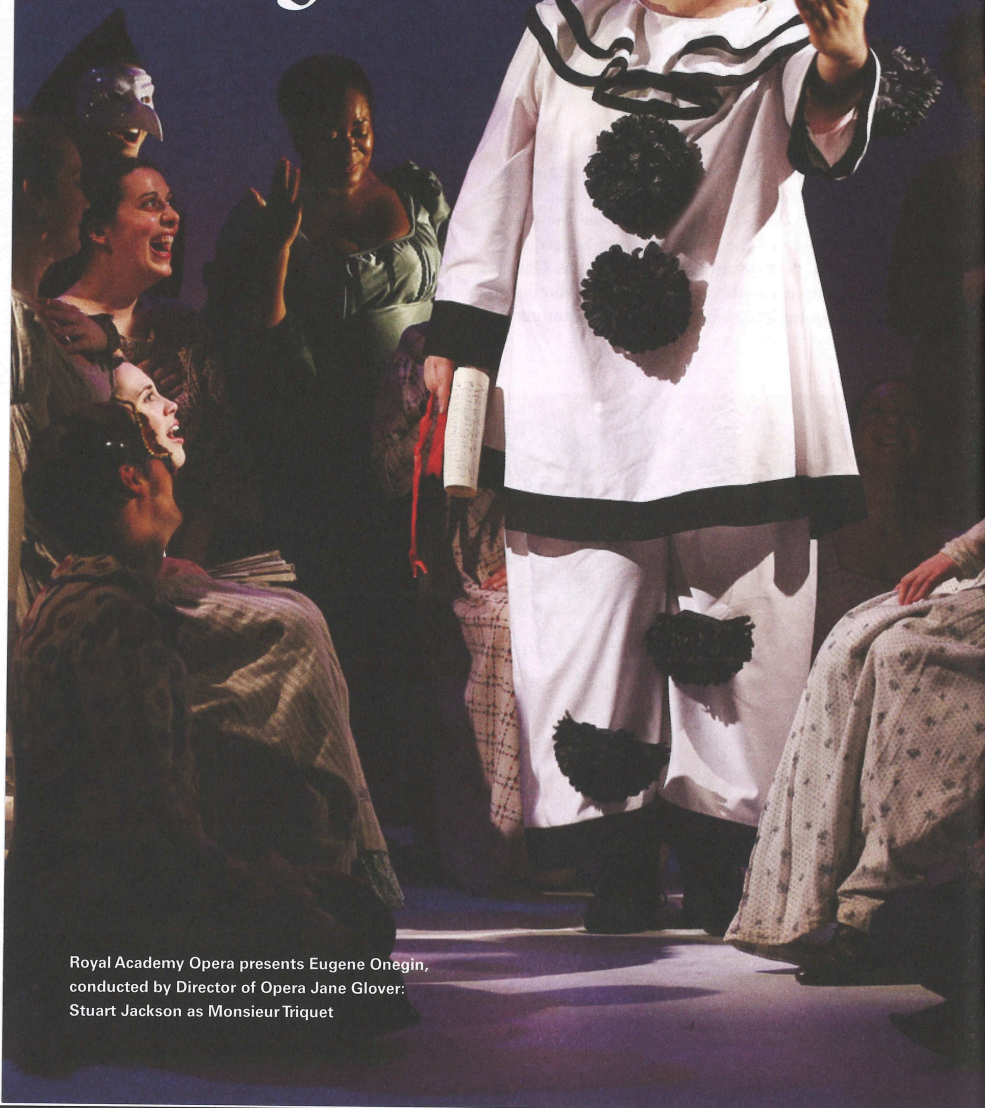
In an institution that prides itself on continuity in developing its educational and artistic ambitions, we were delighted when Dame Jenny Abramsky accepted the post as Chair of the Academy from September 2014. Not dissimilar to Lord Burns, Dame Jenny is a highly experienced public figure who understands academic environments

(not least in her recent role as Chair of the University of London's Board of Trustees). She has a great love of the Arts, which she defended to the hilt at the BBC, and amongst many other outstanding qualities she has a long-term love and appreciation of the Academy, as a visitor and as a friend. As a Trustee of the University of London I have observed Dame Abramsky, and it has become increasingly clear to a number of us that she represents all the core and key qualities needed to oversee the progress and developments of the Academy at a time of enormous change in Higher Education.

I know that I speak for all of the Senior Management Team when I say that we are greatly looking forward to working with Jenny in the coming years. As with Terry Burns before her, I know that she will be regularly astounded by the remarkable quality of our students' work, and that she will contribute significantly to the Academy's evolution to ever greater heights.



NEWS/ Events Summary 2013



Royal Academy Opera presents Eugene Onegin,
conducted by Director of Opera Jane Glover:
Stuart Jackson as Monsieur Triquet

*'I was so challenged here, and I was so inspired here,
it's just such a roller-coaster being at the Academy...
it's about musical perfection, it's about aiming as high
as you possibly can, to be the best you possibly can be.
It's just in the walls.'*

Gareth Malone on BBC2's 'The Choir', December 2013



Free on Fridays highlights featured, clockwise from top left: Christoph von Dohnányi, Trevor Pinnock, Semyon Bychkov, Simon Bainbridge with Franck Ollu, Martyn Brabbins and Yan Pascal Tortelier.

Throughout 2013, enthusiastic audiences dropped into the Academy in ever-increasing numbers for our long-running concert series.

Under the direction of internationally renowned conductors, the **Free on Fridays** series showcases some of the Academy's best orchestral playing. Highlights of the year included Elgar's First Symphony conducted by **Edward Gardner**; **Christoph von Dohnányi** conducting Schubert's 'Unfinished' Symphony and receiving an Honorary Doctorate of the University of London; **Trevor Pinnock** conducting an arrangement of Bruckner's Second Symphony (soon afterwards we recorded the work for release on the Linn label); **Sir Mark Elder** celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of Richard Wagner; and our Klemperer Chair of Conducting, **Semyon Bychkov**, directing a memorable performance of Strauss's epic tone poem *Ein Heldenleben* (you can hear an extract on the Academy's YouTube channel).

Another orchestral highlight was a stunning performance of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* directed by Principal Guest Conductor of the Academy Symphony Orchestra, **Yan Pascal Tortelier** (again, you can hear an extract on

YouTube). **Martyn Brabbins** returned in the autumn to conduct the Academy Symphony Orchestra through Mahler's epic Sixth Symphony; and **Franck Ollu**, conductor of the Academy's Frank Zappa CD, returned in February to direct the Manson Ensemble during celebrations of the sixtieth birthday of **Simon Bainbridge**, Senior Professor of Composition.

Into its second year, our **Dr Haydn's Inexhaustible Genius Box** series continued to explore Haydn's symphonies with performances by Academy Baroque Orchestra and Academy Concert Orchestra, and arrangements of Symphonies 88 and 92 for wind ensemble by Academy's Deputy Principal (Programmes and Research), **Timothy Jones**. Alongside these concerts, musicians and scholars discussed their favourite Haydn symphonies in our **Desert Island Haydn** series. Our popular Tuesday series provides a platform for some of our best soloists and chamber groups. Look out for even more free lunchtime music at the Academy in 2014, when we launch a new Thursday lunchtime series.



The Academy's Barbirolli Lectures welcomed Alfred Brendel.

Another series, **400+**, takes inspiration from Monteverdi's bold experiments in sound 400 years ago, with the juxtaposition of old and new music performed side by side. Amongst a wide range of performances, Academy jazz and classical players collaborated on a programme that connected Downland's late night bluesy melancholy to Shostakovich's dark and virtuosic Piano Quintet; and flute students explored the eclectic French repertoire for the instrument, performing works by Leclair, Debussy and Boulez.

New themes introduced in 2013 included a **Czech Series** and **Underlining the Bass**, shifting the focus to the lower strings after our **Viola series** in 2012. The autumn welcomed the start of **Travelling Solo**: a series exploring JS Bach's solo violin and cello works through performance and classes; and a further series to celebrate the **New Duke's Hall Organ** (see page 18).

The Academy's **Barbirolli Lectures**, featured by The Independent in their 'Ten Best Spring Talks', welcomed **Alfred Brendel**, **Yvonne Minton**, Welsh Soprano **Dame Gwyneth Jones**, renowned

conductor **Sir Mark Elder** and guitarist **John Williams**. The Museum's galleries also played host to lectures and talks complementing the permanent collections and temporary exhibition 'Kenny Wheeler: the master of melancholy'.

Masterclasses are an important element in the training of our young musicians; and for our many welcome guests, they give insights into the methods of international soloists, performers and teachers. In 2013, these included **the Emperor Quartet**, **Pascal Devoyon**, **Reinholf Friedrich**, **Simon Keenlyside**, **Patrick Messina**, **Matthew McDonald**, **Sylvia Rosenberg**, **Yevgeny Suddbin**, **Thomas Brandis**, **Jean-Efflam Bavouzet**, **Håkan Hardenberger**, **Steven Osborne** and **Maxim Vengerov**, Menuhin Professor of Music. The class presented by **Sarah Willis**, second horn of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, was streamed online and watched live by thousands world-wide. Our brass open day in October – including a live masterclass with newly appointed Derek Watkins Chair of Trumpet, **Mike Lovatt** – is available to play again on the Academy's YouTube channel.

Royal Academy Opera, our specialist postgraduate course, continued to be acclaimed by audiences and the media. Composer and Visiting Professor of Composition **Peter Maxwell Davies**'s *The Lighthouse* was performed in a double bill with *Dido and Aeneas*: 'a masterly account... all gave performances that would have graced any production in the world' (The Spectator). In March, Director of Opera **Jane Glover** conducted Eugene Onegin ('Ramster's intelligent and sensitive Eugene Onegin was the best all-round production of this lovely piece anywhere in the country for

years' – Opera Now). Outside the Academy, Royal Academy Opera performed *L'enfant et les sortilèges* at the Barbican Hall alongside the **BBC Symphony Orchestra**, conducted by Stéphane Denève and subsequently broadcast on BBC Radio 3 ('excellent live cast of students from the Royal Academy of Music' – The Times). Royal Academy Opera students also featured several times on BBC Radio 3's 'In Tune' with a recording from last year's production of *Mansfield Park*, a live performance of extracts from *Dido and Aeneas*, and an interview with students together with **Jane Glover**.



Royal Academy Opera presented Massenet's *Cendrillon* in November 2013. Photo: www.johnreading.co.uk



Håkan Hardenberger gave masterclasses in October



Sarah Willis, low horn with Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra



Maxim Vengerov, Menuhin Chair of Music at the Academy



Steven Osborne masterclass in October



Masaaki Suzuki directed Bach Cantatas in November



Sir Peter Maxwell Davies's *The Lighthouse*

Head of Historical Performance **Margaret Faultless** and students from the Kohn Foundation **Bach Cantata** series also made an appearance on 'In Tune' for a special Red Nose day 'Coffee Cantata' live in the cafe at Broadcasting House. Back in the Academy, the acclaimed **Bach Cantata** series passed the half-way point through the complete sacred and secular choral works by JS Bach. Entering its fifth year, it continues to attract packed audiences. A particular highlight was a visit from **Masaki Suzuki** in November, when he was also presented with the Academy's Bach Prize in collaboration with the Kohn Foundation.

Musical Theatre Students have also appeared across the media. In March, they appeared with Academy graduate **Hadley Fraser** and the **BBC Concert Orchestra** on BBC Radio 2's 'Friday Night is Music Night', directed by Academy professor **Stuart Barr**. They returned to the spotlight in the autumn with performances alongside Academy brass students and **Sir Elton John** on ITV's Brit Icon Award – broadcast worldwide – as well as for the iTunes festival at the Roundhouse and live on BBC Radio 2. The Musical Theatre Company also performed in their annual showcase and cabaret, and in summer productions of 'A Catered Affair' and 'Little Me'.

Academy Big Band have had another tremendous year with performances directed by **Keith Nichols** recreating an American radio broadcast from the 1930s and an evening with **Joe Locke**, Visiting Professor of Vibraphone. To mark the beginning of his role as Visiting Professor of Jazz, **John Hollenbeck** performed alongside the Academy Big Band at the Southbank Centre as part of London Jazz Festival.

In addition to our busy schedule in Marylebone, Academy students have appeared across London and further afield: Academy Chamber Choir at Neresheim Abbey in Germany, Sainsbury Royal Academy Soloists at Wigmore Hall, Academy Brass Ensemble at Spitafields Music, collaborations with Roehampton University choreography students, Kings Place, The Forge, Colston Hall in Bristol, Senate House, Regent Hall, Southwark Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds Festival, Norfolk and Norwich Festival, St Martin-in-the-Fields, St James's Piccadilly and many more.

The Manson Ensemble memorably performed Stockhausen's Gruppen with the London Sinfonietta at the Royal Festival Hall: see page 44.



FEATURE / JUNIOR ACADEMY

Anyone who has ever visited the Royal Academy of Music during term-time will know that the buildings are constantly bursting with action and evidence of the hard work of many hundreds of students, professors and visiting experts. Visit on a Saturday and see Junior Academy in full flow, and if anything the feeling is intensified. This is where you find the youngest generation of musicians in-the-making as they hone their skills, learning so much from their expert tutors and indeed from each other.

In September 2013, Howard Ionascu became the first full-time Director of Junior Academy. Howard has extensive experience as a teacher, conductor and music educator at both primary and secondary level and was most recently Director of Music at The King's School, Canterbury. By continuing the outstanding work of Jonathan Willcocks and Ben Parry, Howard is taking on a Junior Academy well-equipped to offer the best opportunities to our youngest talent. Making this role a full-time appointment is a statement of intent, reinforcing Junior Academy's long-standing commitment to Widening Participation. We aim to ensure that the Academy's opportunities are open to

all talented young musicians, while at all times maintaining our standards of excellence.

Junior Academy has an excellent record of recent successes:

BBC Young Musician 2012

15-year-old Junior Academy recorder player Charlotte Barbour-Condini was the winner of the woodwind category. A passionate ambassador for her instrument, Charlotte is eager to promote the recorder through new idioms. She is the only recorder player to have ever appeared in a

BBC Young Musician Woodwind Final, let alone triumph over more traditional solo instruments and go on to compete in the grand final. Incidentally, Charlotte also got through to the first round of BBC Young Musician on piano – and she has played violin in Junior Academy orchestras.

The Academy was also represented in the woodwind category by undergraduate students Jordan Black (clarinet) and Luke O'Toole (flute). Violinist Christian Grajner-de Sa, a Junior Academy student at the time of the competition, appeared in the strings final, and undergraduate student James Larter competed in the percussion category.

Music conservatoires and university

Most Junior Academy students continue their musical studies as they move on to Higher Education level. In September 2013, Ben Aldren (clarinet), Aaron Godfrey-Mayes (voice), Susana Gomez Vazquez (piano), and Christian Grajner De Sa (violin) all received scholarships for their undergraduate studies at the Academy, and a further five students accepted Academy places. Five further Junior Academy students went on to study at other British conservatoires, and ten accepted university places at to study music – six of them at Oxbridge.



National Youth Orchestras

Many Junior Academy students join some of the brightest and best teenage musicians from across the country as members of NYO. Our younger students are also starting their orchestral careers in the National Children's Orchestra. Increasingly our vocal students are members of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain – where former Junior Academy Director Ben Parry is now Director.



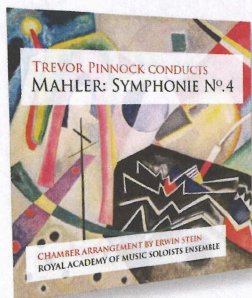
Concerts

The summer 2013 Symphony Orchestra performed an exciting programme that included Strauss's tone poem Don Juan and Britten's Four Sea Interludes. Concerto opportunities are provided to outstanding students; this year two students were awarded this prestigious opportunity. In a concerto relay, the orchestra's leader, Cristian Grajner-de Sa, played the first movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto before passing to Indira Grier, leader of the cellos, to perform the second and third movements of Elgar's Cello Concerto. In the autumn term, the Junior Academy choir celebrated Britten's centenary with a performance of Hymn to St Cecilia; another highlight of the term was a dazzling performance of Sibelius' First Symphony by the Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Howard Williams. In the New Year, and in celebration of the magnificent new organ donated by Junior Academy alumnus Sir Elton John together with his percussionist Ray Cooper, Junior Academy Choir will perform Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, accompanied by organ, harp and percussion.

Looking ahead

Watch out for some special birthday celebration events in 2015/16, as Junior Academy celebrates 80 years since the first Junior Exhibitors arrived at the Academy.

NEWS/ Academy Life



Trevor Pinnock rehearses the Soloists Ensemble

Recordings

The Academy has embarked upon a new series of releases on the Linn label, inspired by Schoenberg's Society for Private Musical Performances. The recordings aim to bring fresh perspectives of stripped-back orchestration to large-scale symphonic repertoire.

The first of the series – recorded by **Trevor Pinnock** and the Royal Academy of Music Soloists Ensemble – couples Erwin Stein's revealing chamber arrangement of Mahler's Fourth Symphony with Debussy's *Prelude à l'après-midi d'un faune*, as arranged by Benno Sachs. 'These lucid performances, conducted by Trevor Pinnock, make a fine start to the series... reveals details that are usually never heard in an orchestral performance... a satisfying, thought-provoking disc.' (The Guardian); 'Simply, this is one of the most beautiful and revealing discs I have heard in years. I am completely hooked.' (The Herald)

Next in the series, to be released in March 2014, is Anthony Payne's new reduction of Bruckner's Second Symphony. Directed once again by **Trevor Pinnock**, the arrangement – commissioned specially for the series – was premiered in the Duke's Hall in March 2013. Berg's arrangement of the Johann Strauss waltz 'Wine, Woman, and Song' will complete the programme.

'Reich for Percussion' was released in March. Featuring pieces composed over a period of thirty years, the disc highlights the diversity of tonal, textural and colouristic effects in Steve Reich's music. On receiving the final album, the composer himself wrote to **Neil Percy**, Head of Percussion: 'All I can say to Neil Percy and all the musicians is BRAVO! It is a superb recording which I found technically and emotionally satisfying.'

Following our 2012 Viola series, professor of viola **Yuko Inoue** and current Academy students recorded Benjamin Dale's viola sextet for 'The Romantic Viola', a Naxos disc of works by the Academy alumnus. The work was originally written for **Lionel Tertis**, another former Academy student and professor.

Academy performers appear on a new disc of music by the Academy's Head of Composition **Philip Cashian**, on the specialist NMC label. Academy Cello Ensemble play *Dark Flight*, and the Royal Academy Soloists perform *The House of Night* – after which the release is named – with oboist **Christopher Redgate** and conductor **Christopher Austin**. 'Five fine works by this inventive composer make a rich sequence', said the Sunday Times review.



Gareth Malone, Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, with HRH The Duchess of Gloucester



Christoph von Dohnányi received an Honorary Doctorate

Prizes and Awards

For several years, Academy students have been able to apply for Deutsche Bank Awards for Creative Enterprises. These sought-after awards offer start-up capital, training and mentoring to graduating students from Britain's top arts colleges. In 2013, immediately after graduating with a MA, Academy jazz trombonist, pianist and composer **Thomas Green** jumped straight into his new creative project, ScoreSync, after being selected to receive this year's Award.

Also in jazz, the annual Kenny Wheeler Jazz Prize was awarded to vocalist and composer **Lauren Kinsella**. The award is given to a young artist who demonstrates excellence in both performance and composition. The prize includes the release of the artist's proposed recording on the Edition Records label. **Scott Chapman**, third-year drummer and percussionist, won the Humph Award for 2013: he was presented the award at a Humphrey Lyttelton celebration concert featuring the Humphrey Lyttelton Band with Academy Big Band, along with previous winners of the Award **Tom Walsh** (trumpet), **Nadim Teimoori** (tenor saxophone) and **Sam Watts** (piano).

Recipients of prestigious vocal awards at the Academy included two sopranos: **Christina Gansch** was awarded the Richard Lewis/Jean Shanks Award for postgraduate singers, and **Tereza Gevorgyan** was presented with the 2013 Pavarotti Prize.

Presentations

The Academy's annual graduation ceremony in June marked the celebratory end to studentship for many: a total of 76 BMus degrees, 35 Postgraduate Diplomas, 159 MA degrees, 26 MMus degrees, 11 Advanced Diplomas in Opera and five PhDs were presented. Fellowships were awarded to five Academy alumni: Florence Daguerre de Hureaux (singer/language coach), Jiwu Li (Cellist/Education), Gareth Malone (Amateur/Choral Director), Jonathan Plowright (Pianist), Peter Sheppard Skærved (Violinist) and John Woolf (Music Director, RSC). Honorary Fellowships were presented to Laurel Powers-Freeling (Academy Governor) and Jeremy Sams (Director, Writer and Musician). Honorary Membership of the Royal Academy of Music was presented to Gary Carpenter (Composer/Education), Jonathan Dove (Composer), Iván Fischer (Conductor), Neil Heyde (Education/Cellist), Peter Holtslag (Recorder) and Norma Winstone (Jazz Vocalist). Finally, Honorary Doctorate of the University of London, *honoris causa*, was awarded to Gennady Rozhdestvensky.

In November, the Academy presented an Honorary Doctorate of the University of London to **Christoph von Dohnányi** in the Duke's Hall. After the presentation, Maestro von Dohnányi conducted Academy Symphony Orchestra in an exceptional performance of Schubert's 'Unfinished' Symphony. The citation, read by John Suchet, began 'Christoph von Dohnányi is one of the world's most distinguished and respected musical figures. Although arguably the last representative of a magisterial conducting tradition that can be traced back to Hans von Bülow, he is very much his own man. His probing performances have constantly shed new light on existing masterpieces and his rejection of musical dogma has allowed him to tackle the big cultural issues of our time', and concluded 'He is without question a musician's musician and a beacon of artistic probity whose artistic legacy will be felt for generations to come'.

The Royal Academy of Music's Museum and Collections contribute to music's capacity to inspire, unite, console and stimulate through events, performance, displays and research using its eminent collections of instruments, art, photography, manuscripts and scores.

FEATURE / MUSEUM & COLLECTIONS



2013 has been an active year for the Museum, with new exhibitions, events, and a major gallery redevelopment. Regular tours of the collection, family activities and outreach projects with schools and community groups help to bring our collections to a wide audience. This is in addition to the skilled and painstaking work that goes on behind the scenes to digitise, catalogue and care for our world renowned collections. Here are a few highlights:

'Kenny Wheeler: Master of Melancholy Chaos'

The Museum's current temporary exhibition, open until 29th March 2014, focuses on much-loved jazz trumpeter and composer Kenny Wheeler. Now 84 years old, Wheeler remains one of the most enigmatic and original jazz voices in the world.

The exhibition showcases previously unseen items from Wheeler's musical archive, acquired by the Academy in 2012. Handwritten sketches and scores illuminate his creative process, from a very early arrangement of the jazz standard 'Stella by Starlight' to manuscripts from his latest big band album 'The Long Waiting'. Personal memorabilia enlivens the displays, including a letter from a nineteen-year-old Wheeler seeking work experience and one of the few remaining flugelhorn that he has not damaged or given away. An exclusive video can also be viewed, with behind-the-scenes footage of Wheeler's latest Big Band

recording session, alongside interviews with friends and collaborators recounting their musical memories both old and new.

A varied events programme of talks, gigs and family events complements the exhibition, with further events to come in the New Year.

New Displays: History of the Academy and Strings Gallery

The Museum reopened after a summer refurbishment to reveal a new History of the Academy display on the ground floor. The Academy's collections, both prestigious and eccentric, are used to tell the evolution of the United Kingdom's first conservatoire. Letters by Mendelssohn and Liszt, one of Henry Wood's conducting batons and Dennis Brain's horn are displayed alongside the musical exercises and medals of everyday students. A large graphic timeline wall plots highlights of Academy activity next to significant events from a wider musical and historical context.





The Strings Gallery now features a lively display of stringed instruments, reflecting the full range of the Academy's collection. There are plucked and bowed instruments from the 16th century to the present day, including a Renaissance lute, a Parisian five-course guitar, and a British-made piccolo violin. The gallery also ranges geographically from local London craftsmen to influential Cremonese makers such as Antonio Stradivari and the Amati family. A star of the displays is the 'Viotti ex-Bruce' Stradivarius violin from 1709, still in near-perfect condition, which was once owned by Giovanni Battista Viotti, personal violinist to Queen Marie Antoinette. Throughout the gallery rare archive material of prints and scores connect performers and musicians to the instruments on display.

Forthcoming exhibition: 'War Music: Notes from the First World War'

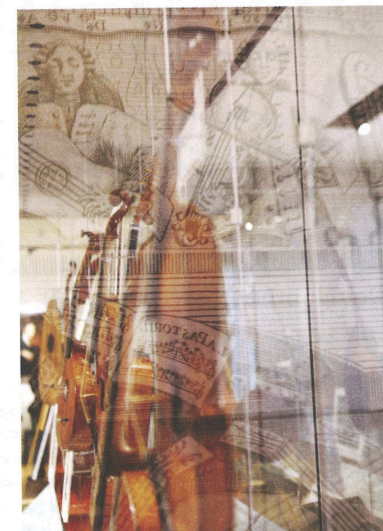
A new temporary exhibition marking the centenary of the First World War will open in April 2014. During the drawn-out conflict, music was heard on the battlefield, in concert halls, in the camps and in

churches. It reflected and affected all the emotions of war — pride and jingoism, sorrow and consolation — with everything from requiems to rousing choruses.

The Museum's exhibition will display a host of popular songs written to inspire loyalty and patriotism, and which became a source of hope and pleasure amidst the horrors of war. A wind-up trench gramophone, a flugelhorn camouflaged with black paint, a burnt-out harmonica and soldiers' songbooks are amongst the items on display. The unparalleled outpouring of poetry which the First World War provoked will also be examined, as many verses were set to music by the foremost composers of the day. Finally, the Royal Academy of Music's own story during the war will be followed, revealing stories of students and alumni who enlisted and left London far behind.

Academy Chimes Shop

Academy Chimes, in the ground floor of the Museum, was also remodelled over the Summer. Along with a wide range of printed music, books and accessories, the shop now stocks Academy-themed gifts including notebooks, pencils, bags and mugs.





Gareth Malone teaches Birmingham City Council Choir at the Academy

NEWS/ 2013 at the Academy

Carol McCormack, Director of Development, reflects on the past year.

Your Support

I can confidently say on behalf of all staff and students at the Royal Academy of Music that we have enjoyed sharing our latest extraordinary year with you. Our band of supporters and well-wishers continues to grow. You all play a crucial part in our success, whether you are able to visit us here in person or connect to us virtually. As ever, at the end of the year, we want to thank everyone who has taken the time to buy a ticket, join as a Patron, support a student through scholarships, leave a legacy, hire a student performer, visit our Museum

or help us build our new theatre. Your support flows directly into our students and to the Academy as a whole, and each act of generosity has positive repercussions throughout the institution.

Thank you.

An undoubted highlight of 2013 was the meticulous build of our new Sir Elton John / Ray Cooper Organ over the Summer. We managed to capture every moment for you through our webcam; you can see some key moments on our Pinterest boards at www.pinterest.com/royalacadmusic/. We remain ever-grateful to our wonderful organ builders Kuhn, who downed tools to accommodate our good friend and Academy alumnus Gareth Malone – along with over one hundred amateur singers and ten film



Sir Elton John with students and the Principal in the Academy's bar

crews – who were here for his latest series of The Choir (the episode filmed here was broadcast on BBC2 in early December). You can even spot Sir Elton John and his band managing to squeeze into the Duke's Hall for a rehearsal before his Palladium concert in which he received the Brit Icon Award. Sir Elton was joined on stage by Academy brass and our radiant Musical Theatre Company, who also gave enthusiastic front row support from the Stalls. Sir Elton John and Ray Cooper were also present at a dinner in our Duke's Hall to officially inaugurate the new instrument — Elton played the first note of Strauss's Also Sprach Zarathustra, magnificently accompanied by Academy brass students led by Bob Hughes, with Ray Cooper on timpani.

What's Next

The year ahead brings offers of a place at the Academy to a host of new musical talents. For the first two weeks of December, every room in the Academy was occupied by hopeful stars of the future, auditioning for entry in September 2014. Scholarships play a crucial role in securing the finest new home/EU and international talent, many of whom are in need of help. We intend to radically increase the number of scholarships that we can award, and private philanthropy continues to provide a lifeline for many young hopefuls.

Our President, HRH the Duchess of Gloucester, visited us on 8th October 2013 to see our Open Academy team and students working with children from St Mary & St Pancras Primary School as part of our outreach programme. Our Professional Development and Alumni Network continue to go from strength to strength as we maintain an engagement programme with students past and present and with many partners who are keen to invest in our work: check the website for details on forthcoming projects.

You can find out about more opportunities to hear our new organ in our Spring 2014 Diary of events: you can pick up a copy from the foyer, and of course all the details are also available online.



Percussionist Ray Cooper at the new organ's installation celebrations



Carol McCormack

Concerts, recitals, research and museum events will all be available — and an increasing number of events in the Duke's Hall will be streamed live for our virtual audiences.

Patrons Award

We've started planning for another busy Summer Diary of Events at the Academy. Amongst many other temptations, it will feature details of our next Patrons Award Winner's recital at the Wigmore Hall on 2nd June 2014 at 7.30pm. If you do not currently receive our Diary three times a year but would like to do so, please let us know.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter, and do also visit our website: www.ram.ac.uk

Wishing you a successful 2014 in all your musical endeavours.

Carol McCormack

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NEWS/ The Alumni Network: Reaching Out...



*The Alumni Network:
keeping the Academy
present in the minds and
lives of its alumni.*

Ruth Byrchmore, Head of Alumni Development, reflects on 2013.

Greetings to Academy alumni from across the globe! As I write, our international network is really starting to take off and we warmly welcome Japanese and Korean colleagues to the already thriving Hong Kong network. Australia is next, followed by America. Our international operation combines setting up a virtual 'centre' in each country which itself links to a number of 'Ambassadors' who can provide very real support to returning alumni or touring students. The scheme will appear on the International page of our website shortly with regular updates being posted

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who continue to keep us up to speed with your successes, professional profiles and contact details. A large part of our work is focussed on reaching alumni and we rely on and value highly the information you send through. Likewise, thank you to all of you who made time to answer the Alumni Network Survey in the spring. Your feedback has already helped us to shape the way we operate and gives us further insight into the direction your professional lives are taking post-studentship. Thank you also to all our alumni who continue to donate to our Alumni Scholarship Fund. Your generous support has enabled us to set up an annual Alumni Development Award which was awarded for the first time at Graduation in June, to Jazz Trumpeter, Tom Walsh. The award is made to a distinguished leaving student in order to help them through the early months of alumni professional life.

Back in the Alumni Network office, we are busy organising our events calendar which includes preparations for our 1980s Reunion planned for Saturday 25th October 2014. If you studied here in the 1980s watch this space, and do urge anyone for whom we may not have up-to-date contact details, to get in touch via our website. For information on this and all our events, visit the alumni website



at www.ram.ac.uk/alumni. With so much of our work focussed on reach, we will soon be making it easier for you to see listings of external Academy events. We hope to be able to join you at an event near you during forthcoming months.

With a mission to reach our alumni and keep the Academy relevant, the Alumni Network team are working on several exciting new developments for roll-out in spring 2014. The abolition of 'clunky' login and registration to our website, greater focus on our social media presence (see our current

Facebook page and LinkedIn group), a regular blog from me, and the introduction of an Alumni Card, are some of the very real changes being worked on currently. We will keep in touch with you about all these developments.

It's a busy and exciting time for us. We look forward to seeing you and hearing from you in days to come.



FEATURE / GRUPPEN — OUR LATEST COLLABORATION WITH LONDON SINFONIETTA

'The first performance showed how talented these musicians all were, but the second took us to the heart of a brilliant new idea.'

(Sunday Times).

In collaboration with the London Sinfonietta, the Academy's Manson Ensemble performed Stockhausen's monumental *Gruppen* in October to a packed Royal Festival Hall. Written for over 100 musicians split into three orchestras, each with their own conductor, the twenty-minute work, which is rarely heard live, was performed at the start of the concert and again at the end. The Times hailed the performance as 'the climax of an intensive Southbank weekend of postwar avant-garde'

'Martyn Brabbins, Baldur Bronnimann and Geoffrey Paterson conducted the three groups, sending the music spinning across the hall and occasionally coalescing into intense climaxes.'

The Guardian, 4 stars

'The orchestras... generate deep sonic perspectives but tiny details register with clarity, ideas passing unpredictably between the orchestras... Gruppen: so good they played it twice, once to open the concert, once to close it. Second time around, different events caught the ear.'

The Evening Standard

'No fewer than three orchestras: one at the front and one in each side tier, enveloping those fortunate enough to be sitting in the stalls in a huge horseshoe of sound... pulled off a remarkable feat of ensemble, precision and sheer virtuoso performing skills... an extraordinary Sensurround effect of individual lines and timbres meshing, fusing and separating out again, with thrilling energy and kaleidoscopic colour, was brought to life not once but twice.'

The Times



Many took to Twitter to share their congratulations and some, including Sinfonietta violinist Jonathan Morton, calling for an encore after the second performance. Head of Composition Philip Cashian tweeted:

'Two electrifying performances of Gruppen. What a treat – congratulations to all involved!'

Oboist Toby Thatcher discussed the experience for the London Sinfonietta blog:

'A spectacle, and quite possibly a once-in-a-lifetime musical experience. Suffice to say this is a work which frequently exhibits moments of thunderous power.'

The performance was later broadcast on BBC Radio 3.

The Academy and London Sinfonietta have a long-standing partnership. Projects over the past decade have included several major London premieres, an Arvo Pärt world premiere, and a birthday celebration concert in 2010 for George Benjamin's 50th.

Luigi Nono's *Prometeo*:

'an unmissable event, brilliantly brought off'

Evening Standard

Gerard Grisey's *Les Espaces Acoustiques*:

'A full house; ecstatic applause; a major milestone in music triumphantly unveiled. I can't imagine a more spectacular concert'

The Times

Patron: **HM The Queen**
President: **HRH The Duchess of Gloucester GCVO**
Principal: **Professor Jonathan Freeman-Attwood**

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